



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com October 2014

# skyDIVE

the mag

1964-2014



**INSIDE:** WORLD CHAMPS HIGHLIGHTS CP NATIONALS WITH BRIAN VACHER EJECTION SEATS RED BULL ACES IN ACTION GEAR ZONE CAMERA TESTS ALL-NEW STARTER APP LAUNCHED BPA SKYDIVE THE EXPO 2015 PLUS ALL THE LATEST NEWS, IDEAS, REVIEWS AND EVENTS

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# FREEFALL UNIVERSITY

\* The FFU does not book your flights, when you book with us, we will advise of the flight cost and our ATOL protected travel agent will call you to make the flight reservation.

If there's one word that sums up my feelings as this Mag goes to press, it's 'proud'. I'm proud of our teams at the World Meet – when you put all of their achievements into one eight-page spread, you realise how talented they really are. I'm proud of *Kaizen's* bronze medal, and I'm proud to have been a small part of the history from the original 2007-8 lineup.

I'm also proud of the fantastic new *Starter* tablet app, which is a great way to show off the sport to your non-skydiving friends and will hopefully be a great boost for first-timers.

Finally, I'm proud that videos are now creeping into the Mag. We had the first one last issue (yes, I know – beer!) and this issue has another six. Read us through Apple Newsstand or Google Play, click on the articles and watch them come to life – how cool is that!

*Liz Ashley*

### British Parachute Association Ltd

*The National Governing Body for Sport Parachuting. A company limited by guarantee. Registered in London No. 875429.*

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Cover: Bronze medallists Kaizen competing at the World Championships in the Czech Republic, by Willy Boeykens

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SOME OF THE PHOTOS IN THIS MAGAZINE MAY SHOW SKYDIVERS WITHOUT HELMETS OR ALTIMETERS, OR OTHERWISE NOT OBEYING THE BPA OPERATIONS MANUAL, IN WHICH CASE THEY WERE TAKEN ABROAD. IN THE UK IT IS MANDATORY TO WEAR A HELMET AND ALTI FOR OBVIOUS SAFETY REASONS. STUDENTS WITHIN THE MAG ARE COMPLYING WITH BPA REGULATIONS.

SKYDIVING TRAINING AND SYSTEMS VARY IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING TAKING A SKYDIVING COURSE OR QUALIFICATION ABROAD, WE RECOMMEND YOU FIRST ESTABLISH ITS RELEVANCE IN THE UK, THROUGH YOUR CCI.

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## 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
December 2014	October 21	December 02
February 2015	January 02	February 17
April 2015	February 24	April 16
June 2015	April 21	June 03
August 2015	June 16	July 28
October 2015	August 25	October 06

By Rob Lloyd



## New SOS Record

**Congratulations to the Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS)**, who set a new British Record 13-way which was organised by Chris Shaw at Langar and which was held for more than seven seconds. Two attempts at a two-plane 22-way were unsuccessful, but the potential is there to break this record again.

## Freefall Camera Update

**The Freefall Camera** was featured in the previous edition of the Mag. Since then, our 30-square-foot Optimum Reserve has arrived in the UK! This ram-air parachute will be guided autonomously to the ground using a GPS module, a barometer and two servo motors connected to the brake lines – giving us precision landings for easy and safe retrieval. We plan to use a round reserve parachute, which will pack into a much smaller volume, for emergency situations. Miniaturised rigging components are currently being finished by Dan Williams and John Curtis, and the team will be building a rig for testing canopy flight once we are back at uni for the new academic year.

In answer to the 'grown ass men' out there, I'm afraid we're under a strict agreement preventing the canopy being jumped by a human – Ernesto Gainza won't be losing his record just yet! We'll also be at Skydive The Expo 2015, where we'll update you on how our testing went!

Peter Storey



By Nick Robinson



**VIDEO: [TINYURL.COM/L5FGU3X](http://TINYURL.COM/L5FGU3X)**

BY JAMES HENNESSY Check out **The Freefall Camera** at the link above or click on this page in the **Skydive App** or at [skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com)!



By Nick Robinson



By Nick Robinson

## French Record

**Congratulations to the French**, who have just built a new National Record 104-way formation. The British Record 100-way has stood since 1999 – watch this space for plans to beat it...

## Canadian Record

**The new Canadian Vertical Record** is a 40-way, organised by Al Neddeau at Parachute Montreal. Dunkeswell have plans to break the UK Head Down Record in 2015 – look out for warm-up events with Killa and Chris Lynch in April, May and June before a record attempt in July.

## Team GB wins the Spirit!

**Four GB teams** travelled to the ESL Finals in Teuge. We won gold and bronze in AA (well done to *Aero* with 11.9 and *Entropy* with 9.8) as well as winning Rookie with *Perpetual Chaos* on 10.6. Our AAA team did well, stepping up from AA, and finished on a respectable 9.5 average too. But, most excitingly, our combined results were the best of any country attending and so the Spirit Sword is on its way home to the UK – woohoo!



By Giuseppe Damiano

## Satori Academy 2015

**Good news – Satori Academy** is recruiting for 2015! Training camp will be seven days at Skydive Alvor in Portugal and four days at Skydive Hibaldstow, plus tunnel time. Try outs are at Mankix on November 29 and Bedford on December 7. Places are limited, so register your interest ASAP by emailing [satori4wayteam@gmail.com](mailto:satori4wayteam@gmail.com).

# NATIONALS 2014

The 4-way, 8-way and Artistics Nationals were held much later in the season than usual this year – so much so, in fact, that they missed the copy deadline for this Mag by a long way and so will be fully reported on next time. This was due to the World Championships being held over the August Bank Holiday weekend, the usual preferred date for Nationals, so our competition had to move so as not to clash.

There was a record turnout of 75 4-way FS teams across the four categories, plus three VFS teams. This makes us the biggest 4-way Nationals in the world – the US had 51 4-way and 10 VFS teams at their event a week later.

Bad weather tried to spoil the fun, with the event running until the end of the Monday on both weekends. This caught out a few teams who were used to it being complete by Sunday night and who were unable to attend on the Monday, and teams withdrew from events on both weekends.

The top three in each category were:

AAA: *Voodoo* (19.5), *Vision99* (18.5), *Kaizen* (18.4)

AA: *Phoenix* (17.8), *Equal Pay 4 Women* (17.0), *Bodyflight Aero* (14.8)

A: *Kintama* (13.9), *Bodyflight Fly Wild* (11.8), *Nobody Expects the Worst* (10.9)

Rookie: *Naughty Slots* (10.6), *Perpetual Chaos* (10.4), *RAFSPA Firefly* (9.0)

VFS: *QFX* (9.4), *Tequila* (2.8), *Fist 4 Glory* (2.4)

8-way Senior: *MicroClim8*, *Thunderbirds*, *Awkward Turtles*

8-way Intermediate: *Emanon*, *Unleash the Kraken*, *Satori Academy*

8-way Rookie: *BCP8lings*

Freefly A: *Euphoria*, *Varial*, *Sky Candy*

Freefly B: *French Connection*, *The Packers Innit*, *Geronimo*

Freestyle A: *Euphoria*, *Revolution*, *Last Minute*

Freestyle B: *Hypnosis*, *Bendy Laura and Matt*

Speed Skydiving: Jason Bird, Daniel Hagstrom (second in Open),

Mikey Lovemore (second in British Nationals) and Michael Longford

(third in British Nationals)



No-contact 100-way,  
by Gary Wainwright



## D100

**Brits made up** a significant portion of the team that travelled to the Czech Republic to build a 100-way out-facing diamond. Check out the Contents page for a beautiful double-page spread of the dazzling diamond. The tricky slots at the point (front) of the diamond were almost all Brits and the whole formation completed beautifully on the fifth attempt, after three so-close dives and one funnel!

After polishing off that challenge, Milko and the other organisers decided to attempt some sequential jumps next. A three-point 100-way was duly dirtdived, with complete separation between each point. This is unusual because sequential dives normally involve keeping a proportion of the grips and only dropping enough to build a new formation. We love Gary Wainwright's awesome picture of a no-contact 100-way between the second and third point!

This event combined many of the same jumpers and organisers as on the world record sequential last October, where two-, three-, four- and five-point 106-ways were completed on consecutive jumps. This year has been just as impressive and then some. What will 2015 bring?

## BPA Calendar 2015

**Attention all cameraflyers!** The next, December, issue of *Skydive the Mag* will include the free 2015 Calendar and we are looking for stunning skydiving shots from BPA members. For a chance to see your photography in print, send your best pics to [editor@skydivethemag.com](mailto:editor@skydivethemag.com) before October 17. The Calendar will be printed in landscape format, as opposed to portrait.

## Wings Over Marl 2014

**Eight Brits attended** this famous wingsuit competition in Germany last month. Colin Preece came third in the Intermediate class and Jackie Harper won the Advanced Class. This gives Jackie the Number One World Ranking slot in the World Series for this year, with just one event to go in October at Elsinore. Fingers crossed! For more, check out [tinyurl.com/pj9abks](http://tinyurl.com/pj9abks)

## Tim Mace

**A full obituary** will follow in the next Mag for Tim Mace, who died on September 14 following a short battle with cancer. Tim had more than 8,100 jumps, organised the still-standing military record 50-way, trained as a cosmonaut (which included learning Russian), was a test pilot by profession and competed at World level in every single IPC discipline, for which he was awarded the FAI Gold Parachuting Medal. Just three weeks before his death, he attended the World Championships in Speed Skydiving as part of the British delegation, although he was unfortunately too ill to compete. Tim leaves behind many friends and many stories, some of which will be recounted in the next Mag. Tim 'Space' Mace, legend.



**WIN  
A SOLO  
AUDIBLE  
ALTI!**



By Les Cooper

**AUGUST'S WINNER**



By Gary Wainwright

Winner: "The others decided not to hang around for the surprise prostate check!"

**Becky Austin**

Runner-up: "I can see the baby's head; you're doing really well!"

**Anna Nowakowska**

Runner-up: "121mph in a 30 limit? You're nicked, my son!"

**Chris Conlin**

Runner-up: "Can you double-tie my left shoelace please, Guy?"

**Gary Wainwright**

# 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](mailto:compzone@skydivethemag.com) and include your name so we can let you know if you've won! The closing date for entries will be **November 12 2014**



## Read Skydive your way

### APP

The *Skydive the Mag* App is compatible with iPhones, iPod touches and iPads and is optimised for the iPhone 5 (through Apple Newsstand) or for all Android devices (through Google Play). All you need to do is search for 'Skydive the Mag' in Newsstand in the App Store or in Android Apps, find the *Skydive the Mag* App version you want and download. For non-members, the App is just £2.99 for one month or £14.99 for a whole year's subscription.

### BPA MEMBERS' FREE APP ACCESS

To access either version of the App free of charge, simply give the BPA members-only login details when prompted. The updated details can be found in the BPA e-Newsletter or on the address label that came in the post with this mag!

### ARCHIVE

BPA members can also access the Archive of *Skydive The Mag* back issues via the *Skydive The Mag* website at [skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com). The

*Starter Mag* is absolutely free to access in the dedicated *Starter* section, and regular issues can be accessed free of charge using the same BPA members' login details as the App.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

BPA members get *Skydive The Mag* free as part of their membership. Also, if you take out a magazine subscription and subsequently join the BPA as a full member, your magazine cost is deducted from your BPA membership fee so you don't pay any extra.

### HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

If you are not a full BPA member and would like to receive the printed *Skydive The Mag*, check out [subscriptionsave.co.uk/skydivemag](http://subscriptionsave.co.uk/skydivemag). If you prefer, you can also subscribe over the phone on +44 (0) 116 278 5271.

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## British Parachute Association Ltd

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Notice is hereby given that a **General Meeting** of the Association will be held at the BPA Office, 5 Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester LE2 9TF\* on **Saturday 6 December 2014 at 1500**

\* If the expected number of members exceeds the capacity of the BPA Board Room, a larger meeting room local to Glen Parva will be used - please check the BPA website from late November for confirmation of the venue.

### AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 To confirm the minutes of the General Meeting held on Tuesday 3 December 2013
- 3 To receive and adopt, if approved, the Annual Accounts of the Association and the Report of the Auditors for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014
- 4 To confirm the re-appointment of the Auditors, and to authorise the Council to fix their remuneration for the ensuing financial year
- 5 To set the Provisional Membership Subscription for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2015

A member entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy (who does not need to be a member) to attend and vote in their place. The AGM/General Meeting proxy form, BPA Form 270, may be downloaded from the BPA website.

ISSUED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL OF BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD, 1 OCTOBER 2014

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual General Meeting** of British Parachute Association Ltd will be held at East Midlands Conference Centre, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RJ on **Saturday 24 January 2015 at 1030**

### AGENDA

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 To confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at EMCC Nottingham on Saturday 25 January 2014
- 4 To receive and adopt, if approved, the annual report of the Chair of Council
- 5 To consider any member resolutions (see information below on submitting member resolutions)
- 6 To set subscriptions payable by non-provisional Members for the 12 months beginning 1 April 2015
- 7 To confirm the result of the membership's election of BPA Council 2015
- 8 To close the formal proceedings of the Annual General Meeting

A member entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy (who does not need to be a member) to attend and vote in their place. The AGM/General Meeting proxy form, BPA Form 270, may be downloaded from the BPA website.

**The AGM will be followed by the BPA Annual Awards Ceremony.**

#### SUBMISSION OF MEMBER RESOLUTIONS TO THE AGM

Member resolutions, which must be from full (voting) members, need to be submitted in writing to reach the BPA Secretary-General by 1 November 2014. Receipt will be acknowledged, in the absence of which it is the responsibility of the member submitting the resolution to check to confirm that it has been received. The resolution may include up to 500 words of explanatory text for inclusion in the notice with the resolution.

Council will negotiate with the member submitting the resolution on its purpose and clarity of wording, and that of any explanatory text. Council may decline to publish a resolution that deals with the same issues as another resolution which is to be considered at the same AGM; and may also decline to publish a resolution (or explanatory text) if they believe it may be defamatory, or that it might be otherwise unlawful, or that to publish the material might bring the sport or the Association into disrepute.

It may or may not be that Council can negotiate an agreement with the member/s proposing the resolution/s such that the proposer/s decides there is no longer a need to progress their resolution/s to the AGM. If the resolution goes forward to the AGM, Council may issue its own commentary not exceeding 500 words.

Members putting duly notified resolutions to the AGM will be invited to propose them orally at the AGM and will normally be advised by Council of a set time allowance to do this because of the need for timely despatch of business at the meeting. Council may make an oral response. In the event of a ballot on a member resolution, the proposing member or his/her nominee will be invited to observe the count.

Any two members can request a ballot before or on the declaration of the result of a show of hands (Article 35).

ISSUED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL OF BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD, 1 OCTOBER 2014

## Stand for Council 2015



**Could your knowledge and skills help our sport? Have you new and innovative thinking to offer? Could you help our sport to seize new opportunities and**

**help to resolve often complex issues? Then stand for election to next year's Council – get a nomination form and start lobbying!**

Details of the nomination procedure for BPA Council Members 2015, together with a role profile, are available on the BPA website – [bpa.org.uk](http://bpa.org.uk) – from Clubs and Centres and on request from the BPA Office. Completed nominations, each supported by a proposer and seconder, must reach independent election administrators Electoral Reform Services (ERS) by no later than Tuesday 4 November 2014. Don't delay, act today!

## Experienced Skydiver of the Year 2014

**Nominations from the membership** are invited for the BPA Taz Causer Experienced Skydiver of the Year Award. This is for a UK-based skydiver whose achievements during the calendar year deserve special recognition. Please email your nominations giving the name of your nominee with reasons (no more than 250 words, please) to [skydive@bpa.org.uk](mailto:skydive@bpa.org.uk) by Thursday 20 November 2014. Council will consider the nominations at its meeting in December. The trophy will be presented at the BPA Awards Ceremony at Skydive the Expo in Nottingham on Saturday 24 January 2015.

## BPA Star Awards

**Hurry! The closing date** for this year's BPA Star nominations (by A Licence holders and above) for customer service beyond the call of duty is Tuesday 4 November 2014. More at [bpa.org.uk/star](http://bpa.org.uk/star)

### British Parachute Association





## Kid Zone

**Are you a young artist aged six to 17?** Would you like to have your share in the greatest and most exciting air sports event – the FAI World Air Games Dubai 2015? There's no need for you to have a pilot's licence or to jump from a plane. Just let your creativity flow and make your painting talent shine to compete in the 2015 FAI Young Artists' Contest, the theme of which is "Create a poster for the FAI World Air Games Dubai 2015".

Entries will be divided into three age groups: junior (ages six-nine), intermediate (ages 10-13) and senior (ages 14-17). The winners for each group will be awarded gold, silver or

bronze medals. The winning paintings will be exhibited in Dubai during the FAI World Air Games for all the spectators to admire.

"How could we not include the young people in the Federation's most important and biggest event? They are our future," said FAI Sports and Marketing Director Markus Haggene. "Entering the FAI Young Artists' Contest will give them the opportunity to step into the exciting world of air sports and the FAI World Air Games."

Send your entry to the Mag offices at Archant Dialogue, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE by 31 December 2014 for possible submission to this competition.

## BPA car window sticker

**With this issue**, you should have received your free BPA car window sticker so you can tell the world you're a skydiver!



## Weekend meetings

**The BPA Council** recently voted to change the date of Council meetings held in December and February. They will now be held on a Saturday afternoon rather than the traditional Tuesday evening. This was done for two reasons. Firstly, to increase fairness and encourage participation. Nine per cent of the BPA membership are Instructors and the number of full-time Instructors is even lower. It was felt unbalanced that they did not have to take any annual leave to participate in Council meetings whereas the 91% of the membership who aren't Instructors would most likely have to take six days of annual leave. Council will remain on a weekday for the rest of the year because we'll all be jumping at weekends. Secondly, to increase transparency of

Council operations. It's hoped that more members will attend, observe and understand Council operations.

The first meeting at the weekend will be on Saturday 6 December 2014 in Leicester. This will comprise the Communications and Development meetings from 9.30am and full Council immediately following the General Meeting at 3pm. The Competitions Committee meeting will remain on Tuesday 2 December at 1pm as usual, but at the BPA Office. It would be helpful to know approximate attendance numbers in advance. If you're thinking of coming to the Council meeting, please take less than a minute to register here: [tinyurl.com/BPA-Council](http://tinyurl.com/BPA-Council)

## NEW

### CSBI

Thomas Bellis  
Marcus Fountain  
Chris Jones  
Marcus Muir-Smith  
Andrew Pointer  
Colin Stevenson  
Ryan Stew  
Charles Wakeham

### AFFBI

Ricky Davies  
Michael Hayes  
Chris Judd

### TBI

Danny French  
Greg McEntee  
Richard Taylor

### CSI

Richard Hughes  
Lawrence Prior

### Instructor Examiner

Iain Anderson

### Advanced Packer

Pelham Georghiades (T)



*Instructor Examiner Alex 'Buzz' Busby-Hicks gets ready to film a trainee Tandem Instructor doing a 'bag jump' on his Instructor course. By Cristian Stanciu*

# FROM THE CHAIR

*This is the first of a regular column to be written by the various Chairs of the Committees and Council.*

*By Rob Lloyd*

**As Chair of Council**, I have been volunteered to go first (yes, by the other Chairs...) and the Chairs of Communications, Competitions and Development will follow in forthcoming issues. The idea is to better explain what Council and the Committees are doing for you as members.

But, to start, I will look back. When I first became Chairman in 2011, one of the strategic goals we set was the increased retention of existing members after years of static membership numbers. Four years later, we have had a 12 per cent increase in the number of existing members renewing and a record number of A Licences issued at just more than 1,000 in this last year alone, leading to a record number of 5,950 full members.

Now, while I will naturally take full credit for this, in reality all I have done is what comes naturally to me: talk about it. It is the many small efforts by all of you that have made the difference – DZOs, CCIs, Instructors, Coaches, Council and members – to make people feel part of the big family that is the BPA and to provide interesting and challenging ways to stay in the sport.

So far, the results have been great – but let's keep up the effort. Any ideas will be welcome and we will steal the good ones. But special thanks go to all those new members who are renewing for the first time and, of course, to all of our existing members who are renewing again. In the first three months of this membership year, we have already seen a fantastic eight per cent increase in year-on-year renewals.

The other big area of coming change is around the way that the BPA is run and governed. Council has commissioned an independent report on good governance for the BPA which includes a range of recommendations. These will be considered by Council and then you as members will be invited to join in the consultation process. Also, we are considering plans for the refurbishment of the BPA Office building at 5 Wharf Way and a total revamp of the IT infrastructure and membership database program. All these projects are aimed at developing an association that is fit for now and the future.

Enjoy the rest of the year, great jumping and be safe.

**Martin Soulsby**





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# WELCOME TO BPA SKYDIVE THE EXPO 2015



**W**e look forward to welcoming members to BPA Skydive the Expo 2015 – the new name for the Associated Events on BPA AGM Day. It's all happening on Saturday 24 January 2015 at the purpose-built East Midlands Conference Centre in Nottingham, adjacent to the luxurious De Vere Orchard Hotel.

## MORE OF WHAT YOU LIKE

BPA Skydive the Expo 2015 will be an unmissable event, designed to bring you more: more exhibitors, more speakers, more prizes, more surprises and more opportunities to network, meet or just chill out and party on with other skydivers. It's the way to kick-start your skydiving year and a fantastic opportunity to come and be inspired by everything our fantastic sport has to offer.

## BIGGER AND BETTER

To bring you more, BPA is working with its media partners Archant Dialogue and professional event organisers EventPro to step up the event to the next level. We'll be encouraging students and new skydivers, as well as those who haven't yet experienced the thrill of their first jump, to discover just how exciting and vibrant our skydiving community is.

## STAY OVER

Attendance at the Expo is free of charge to BPA members and their guests, and the Expo is also open to skydivers from other countries and the general public (the AGM is open to members and their guests only).

The on-site hotel is the De Vere Orchard Hotel. Overnight accommodation including breakfast for the nights of Friday 23 and/or Saturday 24 January is available at the Expo rate of £72 per night double or twin or £60 for single occupancy. Accommodation is likely to get fully booked before Christmas, so please book early! To book at the special Expo rate, select East Midlands Conference Centre on the De Vere Orchard Hotel website, enter the selected dates and rate code and choose CORPORATE



from the promotion type drop-down box. The code is NCPUCB.

## HIRE EXHIBITION SPACE NOW!

For skydiving businesses, there's the opportunity to hire exhibition space at the biggest exhibition of skydiving kit and services in the UK. And, this year, we're throwing open our exhibition to the world. Details of exhibition packages are available from Alex Crawley of BPA Skydive the Expo sales at Archant Dialogue ([alexander.crawley@archantdialogue.co.uk](mailto:alexander.crawley@archantdialogue.co.uk)).

## EVENING DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

Gala dinner tickets are available from October 20, price £26 each from the BPA Office (telephone 0116 278 5271). Whether you choose to dine with

us or not, there'll be a great party night with music and live entertainment. Party on!

## SPEAKERS TO INSPIRE

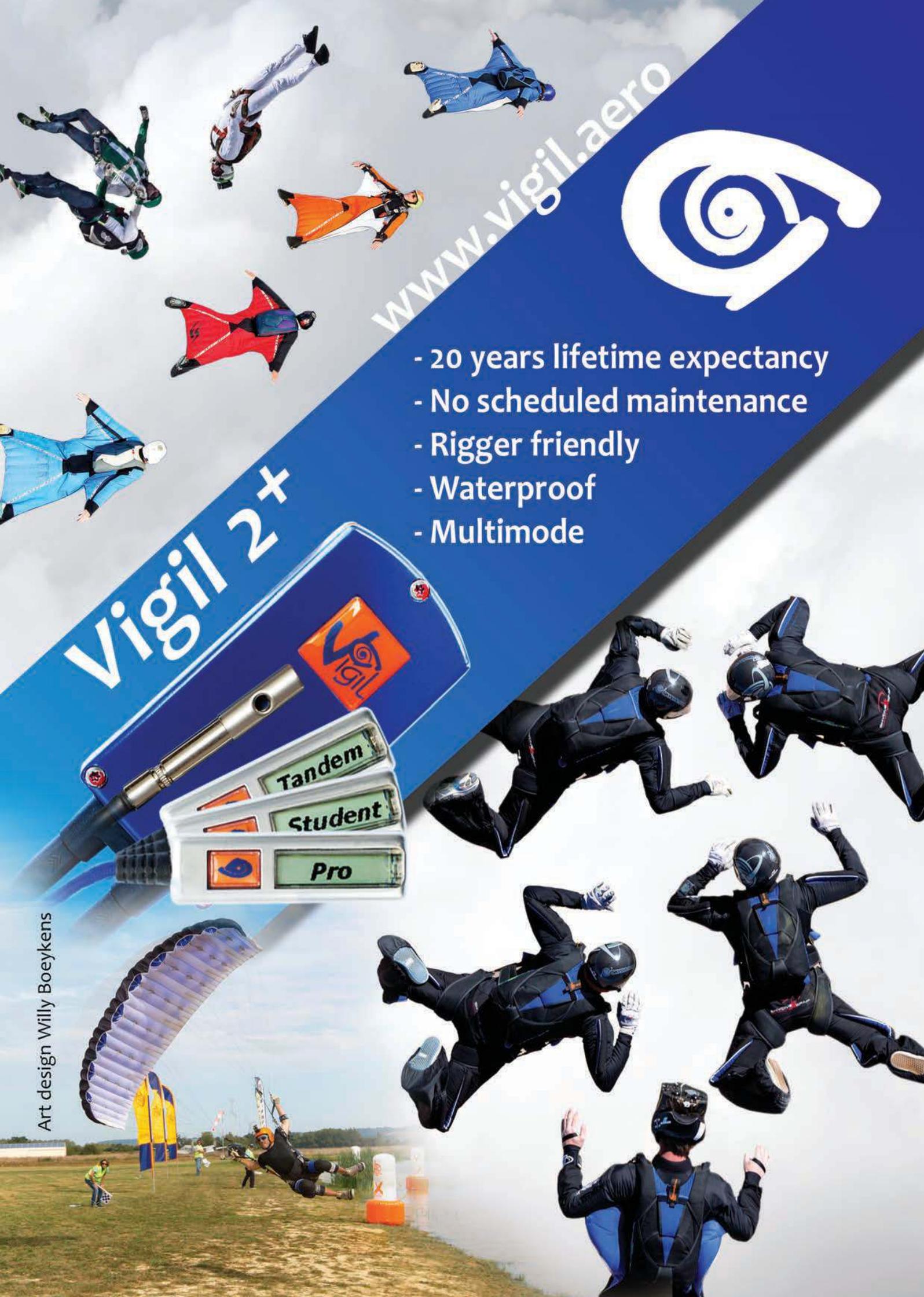
We'll have speakers to inspire you as well as open forums, specialised interest group meetings and lots more. The programme of presentations is being supported by BPA's media partners Archant Dialogue.

## PRE-REGISTER AND ENTER THE EXPO GRAND PRIZE DRAW

This year, we're inviting members and guest visitors to pre-register for the Expo online. It's free of charge. When you pre-register, you'll automatically be entered into the Grand Prize Draw for some great prizes that you can win providing you're present in person at the draw at 1700 on the day (otherwise the prize will be redrawn). ●



For full, up-to-the-minute information, visit [www.skydivetheexpo.co.uk](http://www.skydivetheexpo.co.uk) on mobile, tablet and PC



[www.vigil.aero](http://www.vigil.aero)



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Art design Willy Boeykens



# WORLD MEETS 2014



1 Steve Howes of Varial, by Joel Strickland

2 QFX, by Ewan Cowie

3 The monster Czech delegation

4 Rai Ahmed of Kaizen, by Dave Butterell

5 Revolution Freestyle's Emma Pilkington, by Dave Butterell

6 Speed freaks Lewis, Jason, Matty and Mike, by Mikey Lovemore



TEAM GB SENT COMPETITORS TO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN EVERY DISCIPLINE, HELD IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND BOSNIA





# 4-WAY

## VISION99

*Vision99* had a tumultuous journey to the World Meet. Having achieved a 16 average at the 2013 Nationals, their current team plan takes them to at least 2016. However, 2014 was marred when Debbie Lamsley broke her wrist and was unable to compete. This was gutting for Debbie because she is also a member of 8-way team *MicroClim8*, so she would be missing out on a slot at the World Meet. But *Vision99* were then also offered a World Meet slot at a late stage after other higher-placed teams could not attend.

In total, *Vision99* managed 250 jumps and ten hours of tunnel with the various line-ups in 2014. That said, the particular line-up that met at Gatwick to fly to Czech would be taking off in an aircraft together for the first time and only managed six training jumps over Czech soil before Round 1.

Tail flyer *Ady King* reports: "Hopes before the World Meet were that getting in the top 10 would be a good result. We knew that sixth-10th place would be very close and that the top five was out of reach. We were delighted to come seventh and to be the top-placed non-pro team. We would have liked to get a few less busts as we outscored the UAE who finished sixth, but they had a cleaner meet. Following this up at the British Nationals with silver and an 18.5 average surpassed our expectations.

"We are yet to go into finer detail regarding exact training plans etc. for next season and beyond. All we do know is that *Vision99* will be competing next season at the Bodyflight World Challenge and British Nationals with lots of enthusiasm to reach the next performance level.

"We would like to say a big thank you to Skydive Dunkeswell (and their awesome pilots) and Bodyflight Bedford for their support this season. Any teams interested in being coached or team training at Dunkeswell should get in touch with us."



## EVOLUTION

Katie Woods is a multiple British National Champion, most notably with *Satori* with whom she first broke the elusive 20-point average. However, her sights were set on the Open World Championships and she knew that she would need to join a full-time team to be in with a hope of a medal. She moved to America in pursuit of this dream and then to Canada, where she joined the three Lemay brothers and started training hard as *Team Evolution*. Selected as Canada's national team, they turned heads at the indoor XP tunnel meet in March 2014 with a 28.2 average and followed it up with a 24.4 in the sky just a few weeks later at the Shamrock meet. This established them as being hot on *Airspeed* and *Hayabusa's* heels.

The World Meet was a tight competition with the same three teams being the only contenders for the medals from an early stage – more than three points per round clear of the rest. British allegiances temporarily switched to Canada as we all cheered Katie on. *Evolution* matched or beat *Airspeed* in five of their rounds and even took three



points off *Hayabusa* in one round. Katie finished the competition with a personal best 24.9 average and a well-deserved bronze medal, 34 points ahead of fourth place and just four behind *Airspeed* in silver. *Hayabusa* took World Championship gold and lifted the Excalibur sword for the first time in their team's 12-year history.

Impressively, Katie's *Evolution* teammates also competed in the VFS and won bronze there too! They are the first team to medal in both categories at a World Meet.

**1** *Vision99* run the gauntlet of British flags before a competition round, by Willy Boeykens

**2** Katie Woods, by Rob Lloyd

**3** *Vision99* cameraman Rich Orford, by Rob Lloyd

# 4-WAY FEMALE



## KAIZEN

*Kaizen* means ‘continuous improvement’ and they have certainly achieved that since the team started in late 2007. 2014 was to be the biggest year yet, with a £100k budget coming mostly from the team’s own pockets but with significant financial support from the BPA. Five hundred jumps were planned this year, 400 were achieved (bloomin’ weather!) and 20 hours of tunnel were flown.

The line-up for 2013-14 was Lynne Murray, Maria Russell, Laura McLelland and Rai Ahmed. There was a change of cameraperson from Dave Curtin to Andy Ford late in the 2014 season. Rai and Dave were on the original *Kaizen* line-up from the early days of Double A. Maria has been doing competitive 4-way for the last three years, but is a seasoned 8-way competitor with *Britchicks 8*. Laura and Lynne are seasoned 4-way and 8-way competitors and past teams include *Fusion*, *Bodyflight* and *Britchicks 8*. *Kaizen* brought Fordy out of retirement after 11 years to dust off his camera helmet. He also has a medal or two under his belt from filming *VMAX* (to name just one team!).

Outside Centre Rai explains: “Hopes before the competition were to medal well and to break that elusive 20+ average. To do this, we needed to do a significant amount of training out of the Turbolet, which has a very different run-in speed and exit door to aircraft that we are used to in the UK. We came up with a plan with Pete Allum to complete as many training jumps as possible from the Let and even asked the Hibaldstow pilots to fly the Dornier in a little faster for us when training at Hib!

“The meet started out wet, which came as a little bit of a shock considering we were out in Prostějov three weeks earlier and were sweltering in 35° heat! We felt great after Round 1, the exit flew beautifully out of the Turbolet and the transition to the second point was sweet. We had first round nerves, but generally thought the dive went well. The judges didn’t agree and busted us quite heavily. Due to the inclement weather, we then didn’t jump for a day and a half and felt (after dwelling on Round 1’s busts for all that time) that we had to show the judges that we are clean even if that meant our skydiving was a little more deliberate than it needed to be. In general, we put some good stuff on show but felt we did not meet our full potential. We had a few more ups and downs during the meet where we lost points on rounds and overall it was a very slow draw, but that’s the way it goes... but we did bring home some bling.”

## BRONZE

“Our bronze medal is what was expected of us and what we expected of ourselves. The *Golden Knights* and *Aerodyne French Girls* are pretty much full-time teams, so it was always going to be tricky for us to match their jump numbers. Also, both teams were at the average that we wanted to achieve this year at the World Cup in Banja Luka in 2013. Both the *Golden Knights* and *Aerodyne French Girls* have a fantastic work ethic and it was great to see them battle it out during the meet. I think the *French Girls* really had their hearts set on beating the French boys and only missed it by one point!

“What an event! I feel blessed to have been part of the team and been given the opportunity to compete. As to stories, the list is endless. The US delegation brought the Fun Flag over to the meet and decided to cable-tie it to their tent, directly opposite the UK delegation’s tent. This meant many an unsuccessful foray across enemy lines. A few days later, after exchanging hands with one other delegation, it took a monumental rugby tackle from Maria (she literally body-checked the man in question) to reclaim the Fun Flag for the UK delegation – good skills, Maria!

“Then there’s the story of the bus that was used to take the UK delegation from the hotel in Prerov to the ceremony in Prostějov. Not only did it manage to catch fire twice (the UK and Canadian delegations only just made it in time for the ceremony) but also the same bus, apparently fixed, was used to take people home after the ceremony and party. It broke down on the way back too, and I believe Mark Whitehead may have a story to tell about his run home in the early hours that morning...”

**1** *Black 18 over Czech, by Willy Boeykens*

**2** *Rai, Lynne, Fordy, Maria and Laura, by Rob Lloyd*



# 8-WAY

1



## MICROCLIM8

*MicroClim8* are our National team, whose core members have been 8-way National Champions for up to 16 years running. After a peak in training about 10 years ago, the team reduced their jumps per year and looked ready to step out of the limelight. However, they always said that they would never just step down but that they would wait until a better team came up and beat them before happily standing aside.

But when you train at 8-way for so long, you become rather good at it. *MicroClim8* are at the top of their game, despite the longevity of the team, and their status as National Champions has never been seriously at risk in competition. Therefore, 2014 saw them ramping the training back up again – 140 jumps and 3.5 hours tunnel – for another bite at the cherry in Prostějov.

Three solid rounds saw them in joint fourth place going into Round 4, which by great coincidence had been drawn as M-4-1. This is about the fastest 8-way dive you could design, and in fact 4-1-M is a training dive that *MicroClim8* members have coached to many UK teams as a speed

2



1 *MicroClim8* in training, by James Stevenson

2 All smiles after a training jump, by Rob Lloyd

**VIDEO: [TINYURL.COM/Q3CR22Z](http://TINYURL.COM/Q3CR22Z)**  
 BY DAVE BUTTERELL Watch the action at the link above or click on this page in the *Skydive App* or at [skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com)!

drill. However, as team member Martin Soulsby explains: “Most of the teams, including us, blew it big time. Round 4 should have been National Records galore and a World Record for the *Knights*, but I think the Aussies were the only happy ones with 18. The Dutch did a National Record of 17 but know they should have done better. The *Knights* funnelled the exit!”

Nevertheless, after Round 7, *MicroClim8* were in fifth place, three points behind the Dutch. By Round 9, they had caught them and then, on Round 10, outscored them by a single point to leapfrog into fourth place. Podium spots went to America, Russia and France after a jump-off for silver, and *MicroClim8* can celebrate their ‘best of the rest’ position as champion of the non-pro teams.

# STAC

## CLASSICS

The GB Style and Accuracy delegation in Bosnia consisted of five experienced competitors. In Accuracy, Pete Sizer won the accolade of being top Brit with an overall score over five rounds of just 12cm.

Showing the calibre of the competition at this level, this was only good enough for 71st place! Next were Steve Hastings and Dave Crowhurst, who tied on 36cm to take 111th, and finally Janos Lezsko tallied 44cm including a dead centre on his final round to come 118th. In the ladies’ competition, Esther Reynolds’ score of 18cm gave her 35th female and second Brit after Pete. Steve Hastings competed for the UK in Style, but was unfortunately eliminated in the early rounds.



By Craig Poxon



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# FREEFLY

**FREEFLY EUPHORIA** BY DAVE PACEY

The team's initial line-up for the year was myself, Sean Freeman and Adam Dare. Sadly, Sean injured himself and the team split. Intent on continuing, I asked Paul Capsey (pro tunnel coach and team alternate) and Andy Newell (ex-Volare and *Outbreak*) to help out at short notice. With this kind of experience, I was sure that we could put something decent together despite the tight time frame.

We managed to do as many jumps as possible with the personal and financial restrictions that we had. Each training day, we aimed to do a minimum of 10 jumps. The team also did a fair amount of tunnel time, about five hours, but we made a conscious decision not to overdo the tunnel. The decision was made quite early on that, as it was likely that everyone else would fly tunnel-centric free rounds, so we thought we should bear this in mind and go a bit old school – focusing on sky-based smoothness over tunnel-based technicality. Due to the various obstacles the team encountered while training, there was certainly an emphasis on quality over quantity.

**REFINING THE ROUTINE**

To be honest, our hopes weren't that high given the short amount of training time we had available. The team goal was to make the top five from the outset but, after our first training camp was completely weathered out, that seemed pretty unrealistic. In fact, the team was plagued by poor weather throughout

training but, weirdly enough, it was during this down time that the team did its best work in terms of designing a robust free round that could be performed consistently and with confidence.

The World Meet was a large event with 19 of the world's best Freefly teams and the hosts made everyone welcome. The team turned up a week in advance to get used to the aircraft and to settle into things. Again, we were hit with less than perfect weather conditions but this helped give the team time to really think about inventive ways of overcoming certain design flaws in both the compulsories and the free round. We all knew that we'd have to train up to the last minute.

After two days of bad weather, the competition started with everyone feeling a little uncurrent. The first jump was a bit sluggish, with the team not finishing in time, but it seemed that everyone was in the same boat. Next up was a compulsory round. We had submitted this round previously as an official training jump as the team were confident in displaying this particular sequence with minimal errors. Disaster struck following the first point, with Paul and myself over-rotating. We quickly regained our composure, but all three of us thought we'd blown it!

Although the jump felt far from right, the mistake didn't look far off the mark when we viewed it back. After we got the results, we saw we had done enough to stay in the game and this really gave the team a massive confidence boost for the rest of



the competition. Paul and I were pretty happy with the team performance. Andy, on the other hand, remained critical of the performance throughout (which is, after all, his prerogative as the team's coach).

**FOUR ON THE FLOOR**

Finishing in the top five was always the team goal from the start, so to be one place away from the podium is great. I only wish that we'd had the time to throw in some extra complexity and then who knows where we'd have come? We certainly wouldn't have come anywhere close to the top of the table without the help of Plexus, our main sponsor, who were kind enough to support the team throughout the season.

A few notable moments: UAE team *Azure's* Round 2 exit where they launched and flew a perfect double head up star! *France 2's* (the inglorious b\*\*\*\*\*s) laid-out sidefly carve, and of course there was the winning Russian team's free round which yet again stepped things up a gear. Truly inspirational flying.

**1** Fourth-placed Dave Pacey and Paul Capsey of Euphoria Freefly, by Rob Lloyd

**2** Sixth-placed Varial in training, by Steve Howes

**3** Euphoria mid-move



**VIDEO:** [TINYURL.COM/NCA6YGM](https://tinyurl.com/NCA6YGM)  
 BY ANDY NEWELL Watch the action at the link above or click on this page in the Skydive App or at skydivethemag.com!



What now? The team has a two-year plan to go to the World Championships in Skydive Chicago in 2016 and to bring a medal home for Great Britain. We believe this is well within the team's capabilities after gaining fourth in this year's World Championships and is possible with a bit more support.

#### **VARIAL** BY JOEL STRICKLAND

*Varial* consists of Steve Howes and myself (original members from when we founded in 2010) plus Adam Dare, who is new on the team this year. Steve and I represented the UK last year at the World Cup in Bosnia (coming fourth) and Steve and Adam took gold in the Dynamic Freefly category at the Bodyflight World Challenge earlier on this year.

We managed about 150 training jumps over two camps at Empuriabrava. Between us, we are all tunnel Instructors and full-time Coaches so we did train indoors sometimes to workshop some ideas at the beginning and get comfortable all flying together because both the team structure and dynamic would be different again this year.

Realistically, we wanted a place in the top 10 or the top half of the table. You never really know how many other teams there will be or how good they are until right up to the competition, but to make the cut and go into the final two rounds would validate our efforts.

The competition went quite well. After performing something so many times, you only feel and see the mistakes and there are always frustrations about the subjective nature of the Artistic disciplines. Ultimately, the positions on the table were really tight but in the right sort of place and sixth is a good result for us. To be at the very top requires hundreds and hundreds of training jumps, which leaves the fully funded teams to battle it out for the medals. The rest of the top 10 is made up by those who are semi-pro and receive some support through sponsorship or their national skydiving associations. The other UK team put in a great performance and took fourth after a battle with the Norwegians, while we clung on to sixth ahead of two very promising new teams from the USA and UAE – *Ignite* and *Azure*.



Marcus Muir-Smith,  
by Craig Poxon

#### **WORDS:** MARCUS MUIR-SMITH

The CF World Parachuting Championships in Bosnia was to be my first experience of a World Meet. The pressure of stepping up to this level of competition and not letting the chaps down had me feeling both excited and anxious. Two of us would be driving down while the rest took the easy option of flying.

When people talk about Bosnia, they tend to mention (among many things) landmines and flooding. It was to our dismay, then, that we found upon arrival for our practice day that the majority of our landing area was underwater due to recent rainfall. At least there were no mines (well, as far as we could see). The rain had unfortunate consequences; we were now sharing a small portion of the DZ with the Accuracy jumpers and this meant that the skies were congested. Getting down after break-off felt like landing during a chaotic boogie. Our team tent, however, was in a prime location right next to the French team and we were able to admire their many talents during the competition.

Unfortunately, the manifesters hadn't quite got the hang of timing the Accuracy and CREW loads and team *PH36* members Jamie Flynn, Mark Skarratts and Pete Lindstrand found themselves dodging Accuracy competitors being dropped into their airspace. If that wasn't an exciting enough start, *CFUK* also had to contend with Doug Preston's lost luggage (including his canopy). Huge thanks to the US team, who were extremely generous in donating a spare.

#### **TOGGLE TROUBLE**

It was with high hopes, then, that we went up on our practice jump, ready to smash it and kick start a great competition. Unfortunately, due to worn Velcro on the toggles, Craig Poxon (flying camera) had an interesting mal where the toggle passed through the front riser line group both below and above the slider – causing a fairly violent spin.

Thankfully, Craig deployed his reserve in a timely manner and landed safely. The rest of us chased the canopy and freebag for as long as we could before turning back to the dropzone. Thanks to the helpful locals, the canopy turned up within the hour but, unfortunately, the freebag was lost for good. Not the best start to a competition. Day one featured a slow start, with each of the disciplines only getting one jump before the opening ceremony put it all on hold.

#### **BREAKFAST OF WOULD-BE CHAMPIONS**

The rest of the competition was better, with five rounds completed in 4-way rotations, six in 2-way sequential and all of our teams putting in decent scores. Having gone into this competition with a new lineup that hadn't jumped a huge amount together, we were delighted to score a 12 in one round of rotations and to have only one score dropping into single digits over the whole competition. We'd like to attribute that score to poor accommodation, but that would be a lie. The food, however, can be blamed, with suspicious meat and cabbage served with every meal at the dropzone. Meanwhile, the *CFUK* 2-way team were going from strength to strength, improving on their personal average and leading 'the best of the rest'. Being my first World Meet, it was amazing to see the skill and control displayed by the top teams but, more than that, their willingness to help other teams out despite the fact that they were in the heat of competition.

Given that *PH36* were heading in with few hopes for putting in a decent performance due to injury and lack of currency, they did admirably and brought up the rear with smiles on their faces (and, in Jamie's case, gopping Union Jack socks on his feet). *CFUK* put in decent efforts in both 4-way rotations and 2-way sequential, finishing sixth and ninth respectively. It was an amazing experience, and one I'd be glad to repeat, hopefully in Chicago in 2016.

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Photo: Danny Scaudero

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4 way open

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JUAN MAYER PHOTOGRAPHY

# FREESTYLE

## EUPHORIA FS BY ANDY GODWIN

*Euphoria Freestyle* have been together for two years and, in that time, we have won silver and two golds at Nationals, bronze at the World Cup and silver in the European Cup (but this was our first year and it was really poorly attended, so we sort of came last as there were only three teams). Last year at the World Cup, we came third in Europe and then, due to a technicality and an issue over the number of teams from the same country that could enter, we had the medal taken off us and it was given to France. At least we had the night to party like we had won.

Alex and I started training this year in April by heading to Empuria for coaching with Will Penny. These were our first jumps together in more than seven months as Alex had been away on tour in Afghanistan – it really felt like going back to stage one and having to relearn everything again. This gave us a good start with 80 jumps and we continued to train two weekends out of every four at Netheravon, working on bringing the magic back. In June, we had a mini four-day training camp with Adam Mattacola which started at Hib, moved to Hinton and then went back to Nethers, chasing weather with 40 jumps and finally a routine. While training in the sky together, Alex and I both used Airkix wind tunnels to train our own individual skills, as work constraints for us both made it difficult to meet up during the week and practise together.

Alex and I sat down before the World Championships and looked at who was attending. We went through the whole list and worked out that if we did our routine using the feedback we had from Kate, Weed, Liz and many others, we should score a 7.0 on our free routine. This would put us in seventh place after looking at what the other Freestyle teams had done in previous years.

The training before in Czech had gone really well and we felt confident that we would hit our target of 7.0 on our free round. However, in Round 1 at the World Championships, I think the pressure got to us both a bit. The jump did not go quite as planned and we scored a 6.3, which set us up for the competition and our place of seventh.

To be honest, seventh was awesome for us as we came top of 'the rest'. We are competing against the best of the best – some of these teams have been together for five years and are pretty much full-time. The short-term plan for us has been to close the gap. We feel that the teams that came above us deserved it and the order was spot on, the judges nailed it and we have the utmost respect for all the freestyle teams that attended. It was brilliant as we all get on and we all drink beer and have fun.



**VIDEO:** [TINYURL.COM/OFE27BH](http://TINYURL.COM/OFE27BH)  
 BY ANDY GODWIN Watch the action at the link above or click on this page in the Skydive App or at [skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com)

In fact, it was funny on one lift when Alex and I were with the Canadian 8-way team. It was freezing and icy with temperatures of  $-10^{\circ}$ , so this guy leans over to me and says they are thinking of not going and what are we thinking? I look at Alex, who is sat there with a thin top, no gloves and no shoes, and ask her what she wants to do. We say: "Hell, we are going". The big, roughy-toughty Canadian team huddle and chat and then look back at me. I say: "We can go first if you like". Then they all grunt and say they will go. Peer pressure from a girl on a plane and they all went – it was cold, it was wet and it was fun.

## REVOLUTION FREESTYLE

BY EMMA PILKINGTON

Ben White and I formed *Revolution Freestyle* in April 2013. As a team, we did almost 400 training jumps together in total between April 2013 and July 2014, and more than 20 hours of tunnel.

After Ben's serious accident in July, Jay Southall kindly stepped in as videographer with Ben's blessing. We made only 12 jumps together before heading off to the World Championships in the Czech Republic.

Ben and I had been heading to the World Championships to watch, listen, learn and gain valuable experience of competing in an international event. We had been really pleased with our progress and were, in effect, ahead of schedule for our long-term goal of being contenders in Chicago 2016.

The free round scores that Jay and I were awarded in Czech were really encouraging, especially after so few jumps together! The compulsory rounds were always going to be the hardest, as they are so difficult.

The meet was an excellent experience. It taught me a huge amount and has given

me lots of food for thought, ideas and confidence. It was an emotional rollercoaster for me – I was simultaneously gutted that Ben wasn't able to be there, but also extremely happy and grateful that Jay was willing and able to step in.

What's next? Well, two weeks after the World Meet, Jay and I competed at the British Nationals and won silver. *Revolution* must now evolve, but we hope to keep building on the hard work and energy that has already been invested in the team.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Jay, the BPA, the whole GB delegation and especially Weed Stoodley for her encouragement and support!

**1** Emma Pilkington and Jay Southall, by Rob Lloyd

**2** Alex Dand freestyling, by Andy Godwin

**3** Euphoria Freestyle exiting over Czech, by Andy Godwin



# SPEED

BY MIKE LONGFORD

We had the largest delegation in Speed, sending six competitors to represent GB: Michael Lovemore was the speeder leader and has been hosting Speed Roadshows at various DZs around the country; Jason Bird, a relatively inexperienced but fast jumper; Matthew Holford, the new military CCI at Netheravon; Lewis Young, a former Para; and, finally, Tim Mace, a skydiving legend who was unfortunately unable to compete due to illness.

Over the past year, I've been doing a lot of angle jumps. When a couple of friends and I got to the stage where we were all super tight on every jump, we started to see how fast we could go while keeping the proximity. Going fast felt like the next natural step for angle flying and, over in the States, where there is a huge angle scene, Deland is taking this progression to the next level by hosting the Tribu races next month. It's an event aimed at angle flyers, during which a two-man pylon gate exits a Skyvan and then, several seconds later, racers are given the start and exit the plane. The racer who crosses the gate first wins, with the overall winner taking home a \$2,000 prize.

## GOING SOLO?

After doing several quick angle jumps, I started to wonder what speed I could get on a jump with no-one else around me to worry about and the whole jump dedicated to going really, really fast. I went to one of the Speed Roadshows put on by Michael Lovemore at Hibaldstow and got addicted to Speed pretty quickly. Every jump is never quite as fast as you know it could have been if you had just done this and that differently, so you go back up again to squeeze those extra few miles per hour out of you. We all knew going into the competition that the other competitors were very experienced and very fast. But we were all looking to break PBs, set new UK records and give the other competitors a good run for their money.

This was the first Speed World Cup and it was also by far the fastest Speed meet ever held. All of the competitors had been training hard and they showed it by setting some incredible speeds, including the new World Record – a faintly ridiculous 511 kmh (318mph to us Brits) set by Marco Wiederkehr, a Swiss guy with more than 1,000 Speed jumps. He took home gold overall and no other competitor could touch his speeds. Silver was won by Moritz Friess, an exceptionally knowledgeable German on all things fast and the former holder of the FAI World CP Speed

record. Bronze was taken by Stephanie Hipp, who remarkably went from being in last place for the first five rounds to turning it all around and shooting up the ranks to become the new fastest woman in the world.

Jason Bird, a behemoth of a man, was the fastest of the Brits and put up a good fight, being in fourth place for much of the competition before getting knocked down at the end – but not before setting the new FAI UK Speed record. This was my first Speed competition and I was very happy to set the new Junior (24 and younger) Speed World Record with an average speed of 413kmh.



**1** British record holder Jason Bird, by Mikey Lovemore

## THE NEED FOR SPEED

What's next? My current goal is to break 500kmh; I found reaching 400kmh using the methods I learnt from angle flying relatively easy, but continuing to use those techniques is causing me to plateau. Breaking 500kmh is going to require some very Speed-specific techniques and, as there are so few people who've broken 500kmh, there is very little information out there as to how to actually do it. This means the next 12 months are going to require a lot of trial and error to see what works and what doesn't. I imagine that Speed will progress in a similar fashion to CP where all the competitors use a certain technique and everyone thinks that this is the best and fastest way to do things and that we're right on the limit of what's achievable, then someone breaks the mould and discovers a new, faster and better way of doing things and they push the boundaries of the speeds we previously thought possible.

I'd love to see the Tribu races become a regular thing; being neck and neck with competitors racing to a physical finish line adds a level of excitement that just can't be matched by current Speed jumps. I believe that this style of racing would attract a lot more people to competing in Speed – while Speed is exciting, no one wants to do too many jumps by themselves. The main issue preventing these types of races from going more mainstream will be the dangers involved in letting anyone but the most experienced jumpers race; holding a pylon knowing there's a group of 300mph meat missiles aiming for you must be quite a daunting experience. Add inexperienced angle/Speed jumpers to this and not even the most deranged of jumpers would volunteer to hold the pylons. As the skill level of angle flyers increases in the UK, hopefully these high barriers to entry will become less of an issue as there'll be more people who can fly to this kind of standard safely.

# VFS

## QFX

QFX is Gary Crisp, Ally Milne, Paul Cooper, Pete Dennett and the awesome Ewan Cowie on camera. Having achieved an 8.9 average at last year's Nationals, this year involved 225 jumps and 12.5 hours tunnel in a bid to break the elusive 10-point average. QFX went into the meet with the aim of doing as well as possible, improving their average and beating the Aussies!

Paul Cooper elaborates: "The meet went quite well. We met our objectives, but we made a few mistakes which ultimately cost us fifth place. We were unfortunate to have gone through a towering cumulus cloud on Round 2 after being told by the chief judge at the technical briefing: "When the green light comes on, you jump". This was said as a clarification to the situation on jumping through cloud. None of the other teams we spoke to went through cloud and this definitely had a heavy impact on our overall score. We did request a re-jump but, unfortunately, this was not granted. In Rounds 3 and 5, we scored highest of the 'non-professional' teams and this was more representative of the average score that we know we can achieve."



**VIDEO: [TINYURL.COM/LYEEKO](https://tinyurl.com/lyeesko)**  
 BY EWAN COWIE Watch the action at the link above or click on this page in the Skydive App or at [skydivethemag.com](http://skydivethemag.com)!

"We feel that sixth is a fair result given our performance on the day, but we know that we should've finished ahead of the Belgians (who finished just one point ahead of us) and, on a good day, we would've given the Swiss a run for their money. Most importantly, we beat the Aussies both in the air and on the ground in the highly competitive flag waving competition."

**2** QFX on exit, by Ewan Cowie

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1



# WINGSUIT 4 CROSS

**F**ive of the UK's best wingsuiters were among 52 skydivers from 16 countries who raced in a new '4 Cross' event over California. Tony Uragallo, James Boole, Simon Repton and Spike and Jackie Harper competed in a high-speed slalom race which started from a Skyvan at 7,000ft. Four stationary gates were marked by flags hanging from helicopters – the course meant flying around the flags but not hitting the helicopters!

The race format is in essence ski cross in the sky, with four wingsuit racers at a time flying against each other in a test of skill and courage as they navigate the slalom course. Each race started with four

competitors standing on the Skyvan tailgate and exiting together to race side by side. The first two across the finish line at 3,500ft would make it through to the next round while the last two would be eliminated.

Overall Red Bull Aces winner Andy Farrington of the USA explains: "This is just amazing, cutting edge and really the start of a revolution. This is racing and this is the way to hold a competition. You are racing the people right next to you, at the same time and on the same, set course – just like in any other sport. Just like in ski racing, it's cut and dried. You either make the gate or you don't. You either finished ahead of the other guy or you didn't. And you're doing it all thousands of feet in the air."

AS IF WINGSUITING NEEDED TO GET ANY COOLER, NOW WINGSUIT SLALOM IS A THING!

PHOTOS JOERG MITTER, BALAZS GARDI, SPIKE AND JACKIE HARPER





- 1 Neck and neck
- 2 The Brits
- 3 Making the gate
- 4 Full speed through the course
- 5 Champagne champions
- 6 Exit, exit, exit
- 7 Tony Urzagallo talking tactics
- 8 Helicopters for hanging flags



Farrington, a professional skydiver who did stunt work in the film *Transformers 3*, set a course record of 40.16 seconds in the final.

The new race format attempts to make competitive wingsuit racing safer following similar BASE and proxy events in recent years having been marred by serious incidents and fatalities. This event gives extreme athletes a safer arena in which to showcase their skills at altitude. ●

**VIDEO:** [TINYURL.COM/O84PPS8](http://TINYURL.COM/O84PPS8)  
 BY RED BULL Watch the action at the link above or click on this page in the Skydive App or at [skydivethemag.com!](http://skydivethemag.com)



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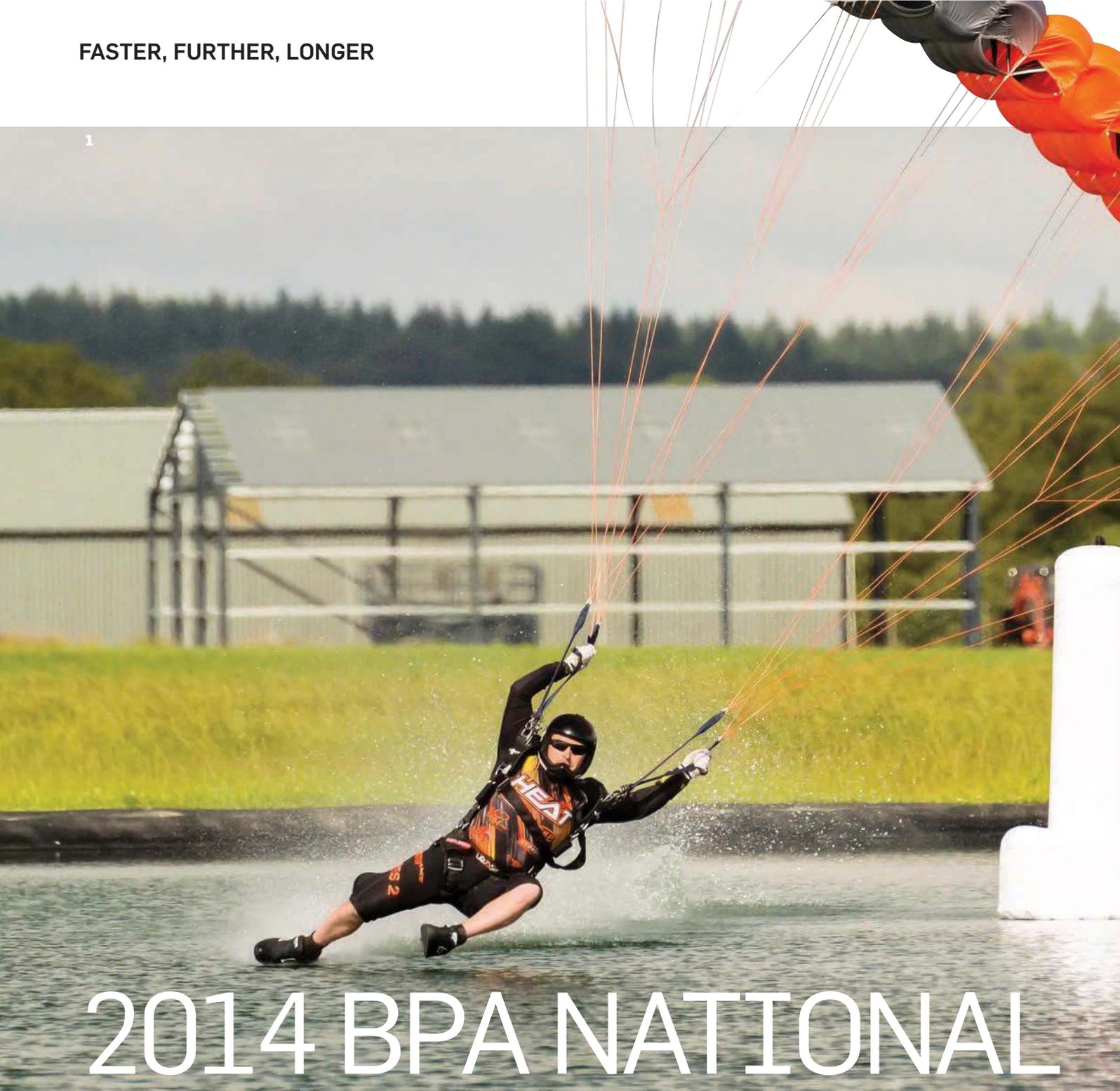
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# 2014 BPA NATIONAL CP CHAMPIONSHIPS

**E**ven as recently as 2012, the CP Nationals had to be held abroad due to a lack of adequate facilities in the UK.

It is, however, only right that a British National Championship in any discipline in skydiving can be held in the UK. Dunkeswell has the facilities and does us proud. This year, they once again offered us their excellent venue for the 2014 UK Canopy Piloting Nationals. Skydive99 offers a competition-sized sloop pond, which ensures that our national competition stays within our borders.

This year, the competitor field was

## BATTLE OF THE ULTRA-PERFORMANCE CANOPIES AS THE UK'S SUPER SWOOPERS DESCENDED ON DUNKESWELL

**WORDS** BRIAN VACHER **PHOTOS** ROB LLOYD

probably the most diverse it had ever been. Not only were there newcomers aplenty, but the styles and sizes of canopies were also greatly varied. The competition results confirmed that the 'Ultra High Performance' wings, such as the Peregrine from Performance Designs and the Petra from NZ Aerosports, have started to dominate competitive CP.

Current UK CP Speed record holder Wez Westley had been training hard with his new PD Peregrine and was looking for his first CP overall title. Swoopers from Cark (the new Swooper hangout in the north) fielded four competitors: Dave Honeybone, Kieron Hayes, Darren Glover and long-time skydiver Ian Chick. Ian now holds the record as the oldest

**1** Distance gold medallist Wez Westley

**2** Great weather and great turnout

**3** Aiming for the yellow tape in Accuracy

**4** British National Champion Brian Vacher



2



“ In the training jumps prior to the competition, an air of friendly ‘fight to the death’ rivalry was obvious ”



4



competitor ever to compete at the CP Nationals (age not printed to protect the elderly). Skydive99 boys Simon Larcombe and Dan Guest were representing and had the local advantage. There was also a truly international feel; Maxine Tate from Flight-1, the only female competitor, and Henry van Halewyn came home from across the pond to compete, Max Bruffell came back from Dubai and Pieter Wittevrongel and Eddie Monteith joined us from Belgium and Ireland respectively.

Performance Designs dominated the competition, winning eight out of the possible 12 medals. The Peregrine also took gold in each event and overall. It uses Schumann wing planform technology, was specifically designed for the highest level of CP competitor and is currently only used for sub-terminal deployments. Its performance in this competition speaks for itself.

**PD PEREGRINE DOMINATES**

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**CP ACCURACY**

Martin ‘Dangerpants’ Reynolds took the first round of Accuracy with a great →

3



5



run, only failing to stand up in the box. However, Brian Vacher scored consistently in the event to take the overall title followed by Dangerpants, with Alexis McNaughton representing the *Red Devils* Parachute Regiment Display Team taking the bronze.

**CP SPEED**

Brian dominated the Speed event, taking maximum points over the three rounds flying his Peregrine 71, followed by Dangerpants and local boy Si Larcombe.

**CP DISTANCE**

Wez and Brian battled it out over the three rounds, both flying PD Peregrines. Wez's consistency and storming second run ensured him the gold in Distance, with Brian only able to achieve silver and Dangerpants taking the bronze.

**CP OVERALL**

Last year's competition was plagued by bad weather resulting in only three rounds being completed and Dangerpants taking the overall title from six-times National Champion Brian. In the training jumps prior to the competition, an air of friendly 'fight to the death' rivalry was obvious between the two – Dangerpants promised to protect his title and Brian promised to take it back.

In the end, Brian took back his title comfortably, winning six out of the nine rounds and finishing more than 100 points clear. Dangerpants and Wez took second and third respectively, while Si Larcombe continued to represent strongly in fourth and Alexis took the 'non Ultra-Performance Wing' top spot by flying his Velocity into fifth. Great also to see Chris Lynch still charging with his return to competitive CP, finishing in sixth on his PD Velocity. ●



6

5 Overall silver medallist Martin 'Dangerpants' Reynolds

6 Chest strap off, belly band on, all in the hope of extra performance

7 (L-R) Wez Westley, Si Larcombe, Brian Vacher, Dangerpants and Alexis McNaughton

7





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Expect changes to the website by new owners throughout October and early November

 Skydive Algarve

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# EJECT, EJECT!

BPA ADVANCED RIGGERS TAKE A TOUR OF AN EJECTOR SEAT FACTORY TO FIND OUT HOW ELSE PARACHUTING HAS DEVELOPED

WORDS RICK BOARDMAN, ADVANCED RIGGER  
PHOTOS MARTIN-BAKER LTD

**A**s skydivers, we tend to forget sometimes that the parachute didn't just develop along one path to become our plaything. One family-owned business in the UK took the concept of jumping from an aircraft and developed it almost out of all recognition. Eighty years on, that same company is saving lives to this day.

Martin-Baker Ltd started out to make advanced fighter aircraft (and peaked at the potentially revolutionary MB-5) but, after the loss of Baker in a tragic aircraft crash, Martin was so affected by the loss of his great friend and business partner that he became obsessed with pilot safety and, specifically, the vexing problem of safe egress from high-speed aircraft.

Even before World War II, it was becoming apparent to the pilots of the time that, as aircraft speed increased, bailing out in a hurry when it all went wrong was becoming a big problem. With the tailplane dangerously close behind on a fighter of the era, the old concept of simply opening the cockpit and climbing out to the side was virtually impossible if the out-of-control aircraft's speed increased beyond a certain point. The faster the technology drove the aircraft, the bigger the problem.

In addition, manually deploying a parachute once you have escaped the aircraft, when the airspeed and altitude →

**“**One of the engineering fitters (one Mr Bernard Lynch – a true pioneering hero with an even more heroic moustache) had taken the explosive ride up an inclined test rig in the factory to a height of more than 26ft **”**

2



are high, is fraught with difficulties. Some of these problems have come back to haunt us skydivers in their own way and in different guises over the years and they will be familiar to a lot of readers. Wingsuiters, vertical speed and freeflyers are frequently pushing the envelope for safe deployment of a sport parachute and, in order to open comfortably, a Tandem has to be on a drogue at first, to keep the opening speed down.

The Martin Aircraft Works had been founded in 1929 and Martin-Baker was established in 1934 with the addition of Captain Valentine Baker MC AFC. But it wasn't until the tragic death of one half of the partnership in 1942 when Baker was killed during a crash landing of one of the company's prototypes that James Martin made pilot survival his primary focus. Two years later, the Ministry of Aircraft Production (MAP) formally tasked Martin with finding a way of assisting the escape of fighter pilots from the cockpit and it quickly became apparent that the best means of doing this would be by explosively ejecting the pilot's seat.

A very full and excellent description of the research and development right up to the present day is available on the Martin-Baker website, so I will spare the non-techies all the clever stuff! Critically, in the early testing phase, and having started (like a good engineer would) with an actual human spine, Martin's team established that it wasn't the G loading on the body that was the limit; rather, it was

**“ A series of explosive charges could launch the seat along a telescopic pole and eject the pilot away from the aircraft ”**



**MB**  
**Martin-Baker**



the rate of the rise of that G. If the rate could be kept low enough and the body (especially the spine) could be aligned correctly, a series of explosive charges could launch the seat along a telescopic pole and eject the pilot away from the aircraft.

By August 1945, seat trials were successfully firing empty seats clear of a modified Defiant fighter at more than 300mph and one of the engineering fitters (one Mr Bernard Lynch – a true pioneering hero with an even more heroic moustache) had taken the explosive ride up an inclined test rig in the factory to a height of more than 26ft. With this

success, MAP provided a Meteor jet fighter and the ejector seat moved into the jet age with test firings first on the ground (the seat being captured in a giant net), and then in flight. The new speed attained was 415mph. It won't surprise most of you reading this to know that the parachute could not survive at those speeds, so further development continued to fire a drogue explosively away from the seat and then let it slow the speed down before becoming the pilot chute to deploy the parachute. It was time for somebody to take the ultimate leap of faith...

On July 24 1946, Bernard Lynch ejected at 8,000ft and 320mph.

Once the seat was successfully descending on its 24ft 'chute, he 'bailed out' onto his own parachute. Mr Lynch went on to carry out an astounding 30 test ejections over the years that followed, earning him the respect of pilots around the world.

Things have not really stopped moving forwards for Martin-Baker since that date. By the following year, the United States Navy had carried out their first live firing using their equipment and the MAP had specified the fitting of ejector seats in all of the front-line fighters then in design phase (in those days of the UK aviation industry, this meant many →

**1** *The ejector seat often needs to shatter the cockpit glass first*

**2** *The deployment process, with a drogue chute to slow down enough for the main parachute to open*

**3** *Ejecting from a test rig*

**4** (L-R) *George Panagopoulos (Rigger Examiner), Mick Cameron (Martin-Baker), Pete Sizer (Advanced Rigger), Andy Hughes (AR), Kim Newton (RE), Andrew Hilton (RE), Rick Boardman (AR) and Sarah Jeffery (Martin-Baker)*

4





different types of aircraft from several different aircraft firms). Without vital 'buy-in' from all the fighter designers to design the cockpits around the seat installation, Martin-Baker would have been wasting its time. One of the other key factors in Martin-Baker's success seems to have been that it never sat back on its laurels – very quickly after the Mk 1 seat was used, it was redesigned to make the Mk II more automated since it was apparent that an incapacitated pilot couldn't complete the job of leaving the seat and pulling his own ripcord.

The latest seats are a complete autonomous life support system which (once activated) can launch a crewman clear of an aircraft (often having shattered the cockpit glass first), retracting his arms and legs to prevent injury, keep him (or her) alive on oxygen during the descent to breathable air and land him back on the planet with a full range of survival gear. The seats can do this at high speed, in almost any attitude and, best of all, at every height between sat on the runway and the operational limits of the aircraft. The zero altitude-zero speed seats brought in the use of a rocket pack in addition to the original explosive charges.

It could be argued that today's seats have almost arrived at the zenith of the design, but also there is no question that

the design parameters keep changing. To date, more than 7,450 grateful pilots and aircrew have their names etched on the wall in the reception foyer at the Denham factory. Each ejectee becomes a member of a unique and exclusive club. A Martin-Baker tie is a souvenir of an unforgettable 'skydive' and, if you ever spot one, ask the wearer how they earned it!

Despite Martin-Baker still occupying the same buildings they started in before World War II, they keep changing with the times. In addition to developing new seats for today's fighters, there is a vast number of older aircraft across the world and, although service life of some components (parachutes being one of them) is finite, older seats can go on a long time. Therefore, product maintenance is a big part of the business. Still family-owned (Sir James Martin passed away in 1981), they are passionate about the environmental impact of the factory on the area. The old workshop is solar panelled and there's even a biodiversity and ecology page on their website. For the future, there is a whole other branch of the business developing crash survivable seats, e.g. for helicopters.

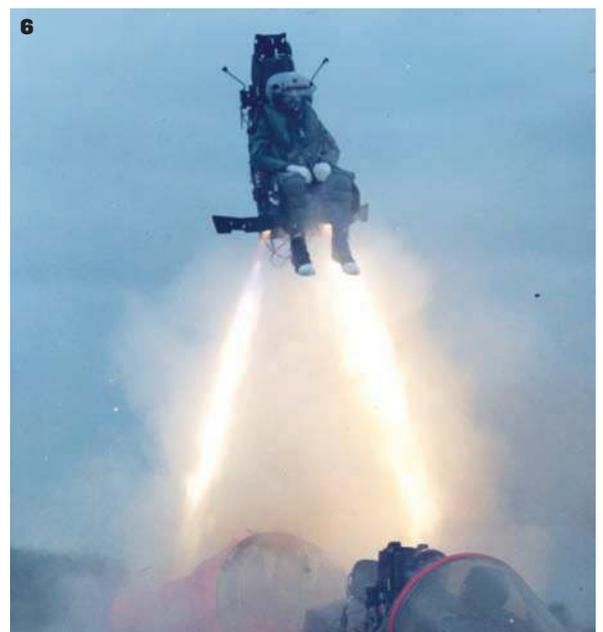
For a generation of skydivers, there is an indirect reason we should all be grateful for the Martin-Baker seats. If, like

me, you did your first jump at some long forgotten little parachute club, it's a safe bet the C9 canopy you did it on was an old ejector seat one... ●

**With many thanks to Sarah Jeffery and Mick Cameron of Martin-Baker for much guidance and explanation.**

**5 Explosive ejection of the seat**

**6 G loading must increase gradually enough that the spine stays intact**

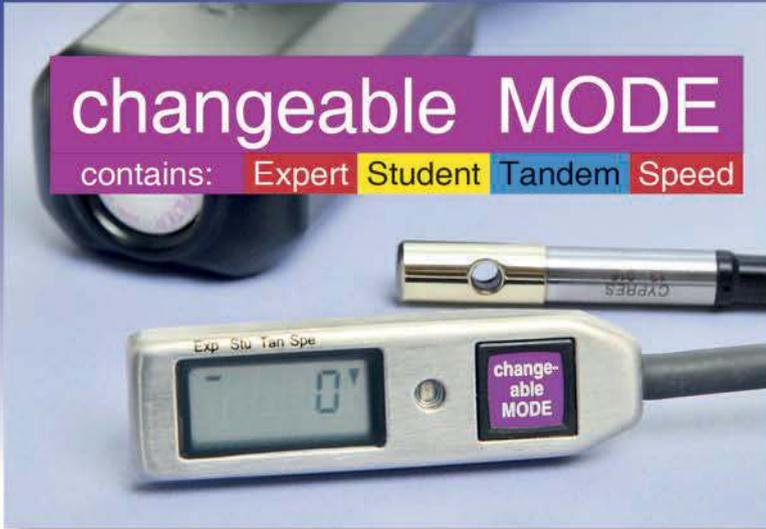


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Rob Lloyd

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# IT STARTS HERE

SKYDIVE STARTER IS BACK AS A NEW, FREE AND INTERACTIVE APP, AND NOW IT'S GOT A FEW MORE TRICKS UP ITS SLEEVE...

**R**emember your first jump? Of course you do. If you're reading this, you liked it so much you decided to come back and jump out of a perfectly good plane again and again. But skydiving is a big, complex and diverse sport, so the new jumper who's wondering what their next move should be, or if they want to come back at all, naturally has a lot of questions about what happens next. That's where *Skydive Starter* comes in.

Free to anyone who has ever done any kind of first jump, the *Skydive Starter* magazine is one of the ways the BPA reaches out to people who may be interested in exploring skydiving and going further in the sport. The idea behind it is simple; set out the basics of skydiving for a beginner, educate them about their new options and help them learn more about the realities of the sport – the stuff you won't find in *Point Break*.

Now, *Skydive Starter* has been updated for the digital age and is back as an App for tablets. Free through both Apple's App Store and Android's Google Play, the *Skydive Starter* App is designed to bring all of the information in the original *Skydive Starter* to a new audience so they can read it their way. It's also full of interactive options, allowing the reader to explore and find out more.

But the App goes further than *Skydive Starter* has ever gone before because it's now available to anyone whether they have already jumped or not. If you know someone who is perhaps wondering about giving skydiving a try, tell them about the *Skydive Starter* App – it's there for them and it's got the answers they're looking for. When they've made their first jump and they have that crucial experience to base a decision about going further in skydiving on, the *Skydive Starter* App can help them navigate what happens next too.

Come to that, if you're stuck in a rut and wondering about trying something new, why not go back to basics and search here for inspiration? The discipline guides are full of new ideas for you to try, and the features on the psychology of skydiving, the DZs map (have you jumped them all?) and the extensive glossary are useful tools even for experienced skydivers. As any Instructor will tell you, there's always something new to learn.

So, whether you're a curious whuffo, an interested newbie or an all-out skygod, the *Skydive Starter* App has something for you. Download it today and enjoy it for the rest of your skydiving life. Remember – it starts here. ●



The *Skydive Starter* App is available for Apple and Android tablets through App Store and Google Play. Just type in *Skydive Starter* and look out for this icon or go direct to these links:

Apple: [tinyurl.com/skydivestarterapple](http://tinyurl.com/skydivestarterapple)  
Android: [tinyurl.com/skydivestarterandroid](http://tinyurl.com/skydivestarterandroid)



University FJC on the flightline, by Ali Woodhouse

## UNI START-UP

If you're starting up a new university skydiving club, make sure you've read the invaluable article in the last Mag which is packed with top tips and advice. Now that it's October and the Freshers' Fayres are in full swing, here's an account from someone who's been there and done that and now wants to help you:

"I qualified as A Licence about a week before going to a university that I knew didn't have a skydiving club. Straight from the off, I knew what I wanted to do but running a university skydiving club seemed to me like something best left to fairly experienced skydivers. I learned pretty quickly that this wasn't necessarily the case and all that was needed was the correct level of enthusiasm and dedication to the sport. I started putting feelers out on online forums into the BCPA and my own students' union. As soon as I put out the idea of starting a new club, the response was very supportive. Plenty of BCPA (committee and regular members) were eager to help in any way they could, and even a few local instructors got in contact to help see it done. The process of creating the club was a long one with a fair bit of administrative work, including risk assessments, publicity generation, managing a club funding account and budget application and planning. It seemed to be a fairly daunting task, but the level of assistance I received from all over the place made the process a smooth one – although it was still a very long one!

"My own skydiving has benefited significantly, both in terms of the knowledge I've gained into the administrative processes and my actual skydiving. I jumped fairly slowly in my first year and probably wouldn't have pushed through the post-A Licence slump without the club and the



Jump hard. Party hard. BCPA Tour 2012 by Scotty Milne

friends I was making through it. The club took a little while to get going, but I remained on the committee in a backseat role and saw the club flourish under the leadership of a good friend in its second year. The Bournemouth University Freefall Club that we created together is the proudest creation of my life so far and watching the very first lift of category system students take off was quite a poignant moment! Overall, it was hard work but a hugely rewarding experience. Seeing friends in the sport with hundreds of jumps that I booked onto ground school a few years ago is a very fulfilling sensation. The club is now in its fourth year! I look forward to seeing it continue to grow and also to meeting new skydivers that have come through my old club to get to where they are."

**Andy Pointer**

# NEW COACHES

Lots more new coaches this issue, including the first new Basic Freefly Coaches. As explained in the August Mag, this new rating allows coaching up to FF1 and does not require the coach to be able to fly head down. 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

Lizzi Hossack-Lodge, Netheravon  
 Christopher White, RAPA  
 Andrew Heighton, RAPA  
 Gareth Mooney, Netheravon  
 Henry Nkwanga, RAPA  
 Scott Beach, Weston  
 David Eatock, Netheravon  
 James Collins, Netheravon  
 Ming Chu, Cark  
 Brendan Dunne, Weston  
 Stuart Thornton, St Andrews

## BASIC FF COACH (NEW RATING)

Richard Taylor, Dunkeswell  
 Jordan Price, Dunkeswell  
 Bruce Johnson, Redlands  
 James Wilson, Headcorn  
 Daniel Whitby, Dunkeswell  
 Ian Hutchinson, Dunkeswell

Richard Hughes, RAPA  
 Andrew Lock, Dunkeswell  
 Greg Harwood, Netheravon  
 Graham Ablett, Chatteris  
 Alexis McNaughton, Netheravon  
 Andrew Wemyss, Beccles

## FF COACH

Kim Squires, Netheravon  
 Simon Cresdee, Netheravon  
 Joel Strickland, Chatteris  
 Pete Dennett, Hibaldstow  
 Jay Southall, Hibaldstow  
 Jill Hewitt, Sibson

## CF COACH

Stuart Thornton, St Andrews

## CP COACH

Christopher Good, Netheravon



By Rob Lloyd

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

How well do you know your canopy? Can you name all the parts we've labelled? Test yourself then check your answers below. If you've managed to get past student status and can't score full marks, get thee to an Instructor, Rigger or Packer for a refresh right away!

## DID YOU KNOW...?

**"It is important** to note that the 4-way skydive, that is often the skydive that is completed just before receiving the grading sticker, is not the only aim. It is part of a series of skills that should be demonstrated before the FS1 grading can be awarded. If a skydiver can, for example, perform well on a 4-way skydive, but is unable to dive and approach a target safely, the requirements for FS1 have not been met." – BPA FS Manual



Head up fast fall, by Cristian Stanciu

- ANSWERS:**
- 1) STABILISER
  - 2) TOP SKIN
  - 3) BOTTOM SKIN
  - 4) TAIL
  - 5) NOSE
  - 6) CROSS-PORT VENT
  - 7) CELL
  - 8) A LINE
  - 9) B LINE
  - 10) C LINE
  - 11) D LINE
  - 12) BRAKE LINE
  - 13) SUSPENSION LINE
  - 14) SLINK
  - 15) REAR RISER
  - 16) FRONT RISER
  - 17) TOGGLE

## 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** A twist on the quiz this issue... If you've been reading the STC minutes, which are available on the BPA website every two months following the STC meeting and ratification by Council, then you'll already know about this change. An addition to the Operations Manual was proposed that could improve the safety of freeflyers training for FF1 and the vote by CCIs carried unanimously. So what was the update?

**A** SECTION 2, PARAGRAPH 6.7  
...now includes in the FF1 syllabus the ability to "fly in a 'back fly' recovery position without rapid deceleration or 'corking'"

## HIGH FIVE!

If you're learning to take docks in head-up and finding it hard work, why not see if you can high-five first? Most beginner freeflyers will be familiar with the dock being RIGHT THERE in front of them, but either not being able to reach it or backsliding away from it when they try to dock. Sometimes this is because the act of reaching for a dock can roll the shoulders inwards and lean the jumper forwards, causing them to backslide. However, a high-five lends itself much more easily to keeping the chest open and in a good body position. Although the ultimate aim is to hold the dock rather than to brush past it, getting good at high-fives can be a good intermediate step – and it's fun, too!



Aimee Southwell,  
by Cristian Stanciu





PHANTOM



FUEL

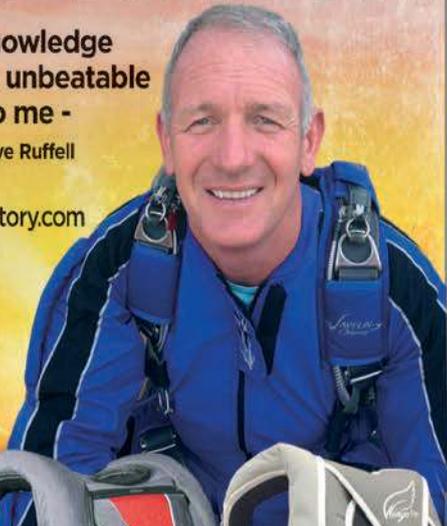


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Brake fire

## NUISANCE FACTORS AND MALS

**As students, we** learn that there is a very distinct difference between our canopy opening with a nuisance factor or with a malfunction. A nuisance factor, as the name suggests, is when the canopy is big and rectangular but has some kind of 'nuisance' that can be cleared, such as twists or end-cell closure. A malfunction is when the canopy does not provide a safe rate of descent to the ground, due to either being not big, not rectangular or not controllable. Different centres will word this slightly differently, but the sentiment is the same throughout.

However, as we progress off student status and start jumping higher-performance canopies, those nuisance factors can sometimes become malfunctions. Twists, which can usually be kicked out while

your 290 sq ft sky truck trundles along, can lead to a rapid loss of altitude when you've only got half that amount of fabric above your head. A brake fire, which might induce a gentle turn on a student canopy until the other toggle is released, could progress into a violent spinning malfunction on a smaller canopy. And an AAD aimed at experienced jumpers has got different firing parameters to a student model; does this change anything?

As our gear changes, so too must our assessment of emergency situations. Make sure you have thought through the possible scenarios on the ground while you have plenty of time so that you're not figuring it out under pressure when a new situation crops up and you need to act fast.

## GETTING TO THE PLA



There has been a small but significant number of serious injuries this summer with something in common: a jumper trying to make it back to the Parachute Landing Area (PLA) and running out of options due to not planning ahead adequately. Here is the advice direct from the BPA Canopy Handling Manual on this topic.

"To land successfully on the Parachute Landing Area (PLA) on each descent, or know when you are not going to land on the PLA and give yourself optimum time to choose an alternate landing area, it is imperative that you: 1) Have a plan, 2) Understand that the plan is flexible and can change, 3) Review the original plan during your canopy flight.

### HAVE A PLAN

Before getting on the plane, you must have a plan. To make that plan, it is imperative that you know:

- The direction and strength of the wind
- What direction the aircraft run in is
- Where you are expecting to open
- Where your holding area will be
- Where your turning point will be

### UNDERSTAND THAT THE PLAN IS FLEXIBLE AND CAN CHANGE

Because winds can and do change, sometimes over a very short period, your canopy plan has to be flexible and will need to be reviewed while under canopy.

### DURING CANOPY FLIGHT, REVIEW YOUR ORIGINAL PLAN

- On opening – Have you opened in the area you were expecting or are you deeper (further away), shorter (closer), on or off the wind line?
- On the way to the holding area – will you actually make it, are the winds the same as the original plan?
- In the holding area – have the winds increased or decreased from the original plan? What is the traffic pattern (are other canopies likely to interfere with your intended landing pattern)?
- On final approach – have you selected the correct turning point or will you need to apply brakes and/or do S-turns or select another landing area? Is your intended landing area clear of obstacles (people, vehicles, wind sock etc.)?

The real advantage to this system is that, by beginning the process at opening and not leaving it until landing to decide what to do, you reduce the chance of having to make that last minute decision which all too often goes wrong and either seriously injures or kills."

**Never start a turn that you can't complete before making contact with the ground.**

## DOING ITS JOB!

**Q** Why do 4-way jumpers usually wear full-face helmets?

**A** In case of over-enthusiastic team members kneeing them in the face while turning blocks, that's why! Although the visor (right) needed replacing, at least the nose didn't and the bleeding was only superficial.



## HOW TO WIND UP A CCI

**CCI:** (while checking your kit) "What reserve have you got in there?"

**Jumper:** "Don't know, never used it"

**CCI:** "Gaaahhh!"

Gaz Kirby getting his knees back in the breeze over Cork following a lay-off due to a broken leg.  
By Peter Hughes



## WHAT ARE THE RULES?

**Do you know** the currency requirements for skydiving? You'll be used to having received regular revision training as a student, but what about once you've got your shiny A Licence? Well, the Ops Manual still says that, if you have had a lay-off of two months or more, you must check in with the CCI who will approve your next jump and your plans for it. Once you've got a B Licence or

above, there are no written BPA currency requirements although some centres will have their own rules. However, it's always a good idea to catch up with your local instructors if you haven't jumped in a while. Even if you don't officially need any extra training, they'll be happy to help and you may learn something new or remember something you could otherwise have forgotten.

## THERE I WAS...

Last time we ran a survey about your favourite bits of the Mag, you told us you like reading about people's near-miss stories and what they learned from them. But we can't make them up so, if you've got a good story, please send it in! Your name doesn't have to be printed – it's all about others learning from your mistakes so they don't have to make them too.



**GEAR  
ZONE**

**Ladies, gentlemen and** – wait, who am I kidding – skydivers. Welcome to Gear Zone. It's been missing for a little while, but it's back; all-new, all-improved and served with a side of awesome.

What's that? Who's this person mashing the keyboard? I'm Macca and have been skydiving for many years now. I'm proud to call Sibson my home DZ and you can find me there most weekends or, indeed, on one of the many DZs I find myself on. If we've never met, please come and say hello but be prepared to get hugged. I love a hug. Seriously.

Each issue, we're going to look at the gear that makes our sport what it is and try to talk to some of the people who put it all together. As well as the usual, super-exciting service bulletins, we'll be looking at new skydiving gear and the peripheral bits that aren't sold by a gear store. Think tents, solar mobile phone chargers and cool gadgets that can make your life easier at the DZ.

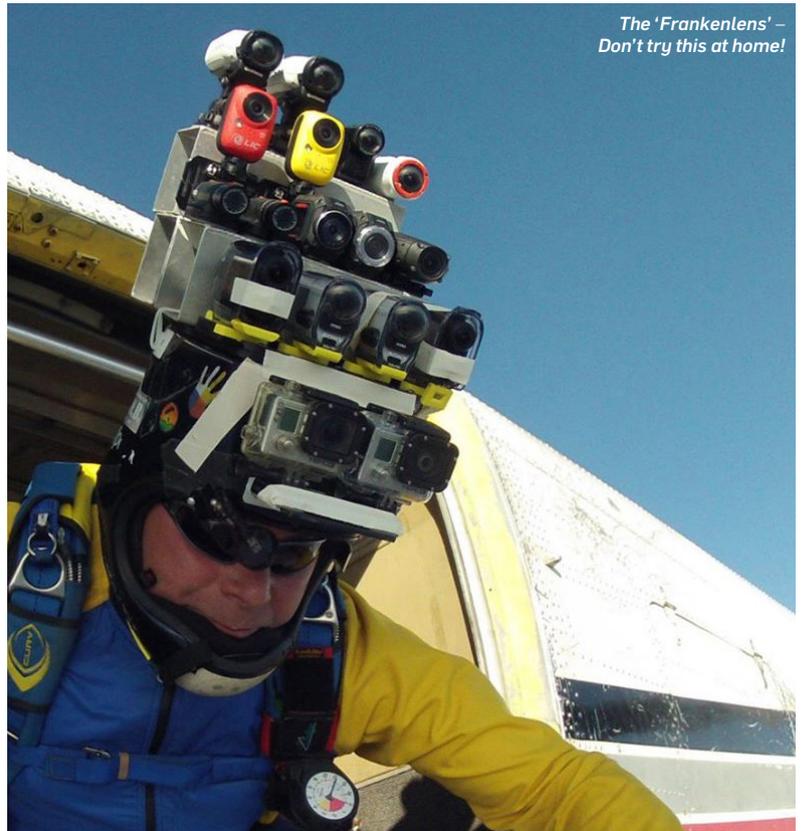
I make no claims whatsoever to know everything about everything in our sport – hell, I can barely spell my own name – so expect to see lots of words from other people gracing these future pages. Think of me as a conduit of gear knowledge and these pages as the hallowed views of those who know their stuff.

Manufacturers, have you got something cool coming out? Give me a shout at [Skydivemacca@mac.com](mailto:Skydivemacca@mac.com) and let's talk. I want to see your new gear and test it.

For this first-ever article, we're looking at the little things that we all love to bolt to our helmets and elsewhere: action POV cams. We've all heard of the GoPro, but what else is there? It seems like every company under the sun is trying to market a new super-awesome, teeny tiny camera to us, so which of them are any good?

I've turned to a man who knows exactly what he's talking about because he is not only an expert in the field of videography and editing but is also a super-experienced wingsuiter and cameraflyer out in the US. Douglas Spotted Eagle has put together a really in-depth review of cameras for freefall use and conducted the biggest ever side-by-side test in the camera industry using a custom-build helmet lovingly referred to as 'Frankenlens'. Try looking at a picture of it without rubbing your neck, I dare you.

The final test with all its detail would easily fill this entire magazine several times over, so what follows is the highly abridged version. I really would urge you to read the full test – it was truly thorough. You can find it at: [bit.ly/povtest](http://bit.ly/povtest).



The 'Frankenlens' – Don't try this at home!

**THE CAMERAS ON TEST:**

- GoPro Hero 3+ £270
- GoPro Hero 3 Black £200
- Sony AS100V £299
- Sony AS30 £197
- JVC Adixxon £180
- Midland XTC400 £180
- Polaroid XS100 £120
- ReplayXD Mini £160
- Liquid Ego £140
- Drift Ghost S £240
- Garmin VIRB £220

With the criteria determined and cameras selected, I created a scoring sheet that could be used as a reference throughout the process. The goal is to be as objective as possible in a subjective conversation.

A panel was selected, and four people would review images from the cameras and choose the best image when image quality was relevant. Other factors such as battery life, wireless functionality/reliability and audio features/quality are objective. Scores are based on how these functions are implemented and may be relied upon.

Most of the cameras have tweaks and settings that allow them to be the best they can for specific situations. Rather than setting each camera to its best settings, all cameras were used exactly as they come out of the box.

After all the results were in and the panel gave their feedback, here's what the final result looked like.

**FINAL SCORE CHART:**

- Category winners:**
- Image Quality – Sony AS100V
  - Battery Life – Liquid Ego
  - Profile – ReplayXD Mini
  - WiFi – Sony AS100V and Liquid Ego
  - Wet Use – GoPro 3+, Sony AS100V and Drift Ghost S
  - Audio – Sony AS100V
  - Mounts – ReplayXD Mini
  - Slow Motion/Overcrank – Sony AS100V
  - Low Light – Sony AS100V and GoPro 3+
  - Professional Codecs/Bitrates – Sony AS100V





Image quality – Test 1



Image quality – Test 2

**SUMMARY:**

This shootout truly came down to a select few cameras and any one of the top five is an excellent choice depending on requirements for form factor, image quality, post-production requirements and high framerates.

Not unexpectedly, the scoring fell very close to the price points of the cameras. Only the ReplayXD Mini was the surprise. Ultimately, it came down to a few things, all of them feature-related as opposed to picture quality-related. Truly, there are so many offerings overall that it's impossible to suggest that any one camera is significantly better than the others for overall use.

My personal preference is the Sony AS100V. It's been called the 'GoPro-killer' by many reviewers, but there is a reason everyone compares themselves to GoPro cameras; GoPro is a damn fine product. The Garmin VIRB took me by surprise; the camera is the heaviest of the lot and the mount is not great. It would be a terrific camera for most users if the mount was as stable as the camera itself. It truly feels like manufacturers pay almost no attention to the stability of the mounting system and it's for this reason that I didn't use most of the manufacturer mounts (I was doing them a favour while also watching out for my own safety).

Mounts and battery life aside, the VIRB is an exciting newcomer to the mix of cameras. Midland's new XTC400 really threw me for a loop because the camera feels/looks cheap. Again, they have a horrid mount that is even more flimsy than GoPro's mount. Yet the picture quality, price point and ease of use make the Midland a wonderful choice for the budget-conscious sport shooter. Finally, Liquid's EGO really is a delight. Yeah, it's a pain to use when in the water housing and it has a mount identical to GoPro, but it looks like a Minion. How can one simply not LOVE a Minion? The record time makes this an all-day camera and, given that it shares mount points with GoPro, a whole world of mounts are available for this fun little camera at the lowest price point in the mix.

**ABOUT DSE:**

Douglas Spotted Eagle (D29060) is a videographer/producer living between the world of professional production and skydiving. With more than 5,000 skydives and 300 film/television productions, he loves playing with cameras and things that go fast.

Camera	Low light	Wet image	Stabilisation	Water resistance	Ease of use	WiFi	Battery life	Mounting hardware	Audio	Professional features	Colour accuracy	60p quality	120p quality	240p quality	720p quality	1080p quality	TOTAL SCORE
Sony AS100	5	5	5	2	5	5	4	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	74
GoPro Hero 3+	4	5	/	0	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	60
ReplayXD Mini	3	4	4	5	4	/	5	5	5	5	4	5	/	/	5	4	58
Sony AS30	3	3	5	0	5	3	4	3	4	2	4	4	3	/	5	5	53
Garmin VIRB	4	4	/	0	4.5	4	3	4	3	3	4	5	/	/	5	5	52.5
GoPro Hero 3 Black	3	4	/	0	4	3	2	5	4	3	3	4	3	4	5	4	51
Drift Ghost S	4	5	/	5	3	3	3	2	4	2	4	4	/	/	5	5	49
Midland XTC400	3	3	/	0	5	5	5	4	2	0	4	/	/	/	5	5	41
JVC Adixxion	2	3	3	5	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	4	/	/	4	3	35
Liquid Ego	2	4	/	3	3	3	5	5	2	0	3	/	/	/	5	4	34
Polaroid XS100	3	3	/	5	5	3	5	3	2	0	3	/	/	/	/	4	34

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PRECISION LOG BOOK  
WITH 500 ENTRY SPACES  
# B1775



**KROOPS**  
TROPOS DACH VENTED  
SKYDIVING GOGGLES  
SMOKE-YELLOW UPPER CASE WITH CASE  
# B1161



**SKY SYSTEMS**  
SKY EYES CURVE  
SKYDIVING GOGGLES  
SMOKE-YELLOW UPPER CASE WITH CASE  
# B1161



**VISO II ELASTIC**  
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4 WARNINGS, TRACK ALARMS  
PROGRAMABLE W/ SWOOP ALARMS  
# I10495



**VISO II**  
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& VISUAL ALTIMETER  
ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE  
# I10505



**SOLO II**  
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ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE  
# I10520



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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 Trevellas, 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

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headcorn.com  
*Cessna Caravan, Islander*

### 8 Hibaldstow

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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,  
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### 11 Netheravon

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

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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*

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Barracks, South Cerney, Cirencester  
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info@silverstars.me.uk  
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*Cessna Caravan*

### 17 St Andrews

**Skydive St Andrews**  
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skydivestandrews@mail.com  
skydivestandrews.co.uk  
*Cessna 185, Turbo Cessna 206*

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steve@skydivestgeorge.co.uk  
skydivestgeorge.co.uk  
*Airvan*

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Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder,  
Perthshire PH3 1LA  
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kbrady@btinternet.com  
skydivestrathallan.co.uk  
*Three Cessna 206s, guest turbine*

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**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  
skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk  
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### 25 Weston

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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**  
Hannah Parker, BCPA Chair  
mail@bcpa.org.uk  
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### 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

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## RAPA

skydive-badlippspringe.com

# RAPA Anniversary Boogie sets new record!

The many months of preparation finally reached a climax as the weather gods smiled on Bad Lippspringe for a sun-filled 50th Anniversary Boogie (with the exception of an overcast Friday to allow the hard-working staff a bit of a breather). With many people arriving earlier than the official start on Wednesday to secure the best camping slots and coldest beers, this enabled us to put one of the two available Skyvans up for a cheeky taster and get our knees in the breeze before the masses arrived.

Numbers increased daily, keeping the LOs busy organising all variations of loads in growing sizes in FS up to a 40-way using both Skyvans, FF from one-on-one upwards, tracking and wingsuiting with an ever-increasing flock.

As planned, the preparations for the German Ladies' Head Down Record attempt were coming together too. That all of the girls had never jumped together before made it all the more special when they completed a 7-way to set the record.

The Boogie was topped off on the Saturday with an awesome party with live music and the RAPA dance-off (see YouTube for more details...). It was a great opportunity for skydivers old and new to refresh friendships from years gone by and make new ones. Congratulations and thanks go to all who were involved, jumped or just came for beer and a chat and helped make the Boogie an event that we'll all remember for a long time to come.

Congratulations also go out to the

incremental staff who competed at the Armed Forces Parachuting Championships in their first competition, with the 4-way team finishing in a respectable fourth place that was just one point off third. Ray Clement also achieved bronze in Novice Accuracy.

Remember to check us out at skydive-badlippspringe.com and, if you're ever in the area, come and visit us at THE best BPA DZ in Germany!

**Rich Oakley**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Anvar Badakshanov, Benjamin Berry, Andrew Cole, Christopher Corbett, Ellis Davies, Alexander Gibson, Edward Griffiths, Charles Hedley, Toby Slocombe  
**CAT8** Christina Crook, Angus Griffiths, Karen Oakley **CHI** Simon Brown, Daniel Peters, Kevin Shaw **CH2/JMI** James Bridle, Scott Cameron, Ray Clement, Adam Dover, Jay Dudding, Jan Hüsener, Billy King, Brian Ngoma, William Ross, Will Tibbott **FS1** James Bridle, Scott Cameron, Adam Dover, Jay Dudding, Billy King, Brian Ngoma, William Ross, Will Tibbott, Sam Trick **JUMP NUMBERS 100** James Bridle, Ray Clement, Adam Dover, Jay Dudding, Will Tibbott **200** Rich Oakley **500** Mark Guyatt, Wolfgang Matussek **1,000** Jase Hughes

## Netheravon

netheravon.com

## Nethers rocks!

After sitting in the hangar for two years, the rock sculpture celebrating 50 years of APA excellence has finally been put firmly in place beside our hangar. It is already proving to be the favourite spot for photos and was the location of choice for a massive group photograph at this year's Armed Forces Parachute Championships with Sir Peter Wall in the foreground. Sir Peter retires from the Army this year and is also retiring from his position as President of the APA. He has been a great support to us over the years and will be greatly missed. Lieutenant-General John Lorrimer DSO MBE, who we look forward to meeting soon, will be replacing him.

The 'Armies' were a great success this year and we once again conquered the weather to complete almost all rounds in all categories. Fifty-two teams and 180 competitors attended, completing 2,534 jumps during the event – amazing!

After an absence of a couple of years, the tradition of having an 8-way Speed star competition on the weekend after the AFPC is back. This year, it was organised by Nethers' own team SAVoA, seven teams entered and the battle began! The awesome *Thea's Team* screeched into first.

Since the last Mag went to press, we have had an Isis team coaching weekend, three Freefly Weekends with Paul Capsey, three packing courses, three B Licence progression days, a big-way Mike Lewis weekend, a tracking and tracing weekend, a SAVoA 4-way Scrambles comp and a Canopy Formation Grand Prix – not bad, eh?

By the time this issue goes to press, the World Parachuting Championships will be over, the medals awarded and the champagne consumed! Regardless of the results, we would like to say: "we are so proud of you – we couldn't ask for better ambassadors for Netheravon" to both *Euphoria* teams of Andy Godwin, Alex Dand, Dave Pacey, Paul Capsey and Andy Newell.

**Major General Dare Wilson CBE MC DL FRGS  
 Founder of the Army Parachute Association  
 – 1919-2014**

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Dare Wilson, the founder of the Army Parachute Association. The Lieutenant-Colonel commanding 22 SAS and a passionate and pioneering skydiver, Dare Wilson campaigned tirelessly to form the APA in 1962 and he continued to support the sport with highly influential roles within both the military and BPA. His career outside of parachuting is worthy of the most epic of Hollywood productions, although many would struggle to believe it. In the words of Alex, his son and friend to us all at Netheravon, he was: "one of the greatest warriors of his generation and achieved more in his one incredible life than many hundreds of men could dream of".

**Elana Cain**

Mass photo by the stone, by Graham Harrison



**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Joseph Bowles, Simon Bradbury, Nick Broughton, Martin Brown, Alex Gialias, Jeremy Millward, Joanna Mycroft, Declan O'Neill, Andy Swaffield, Steph Tucker **CAT8** Guy Hannaford **CHI** Pit J Goralsky **CH2/JMI** Stefan Campbell, Gary Chambers, Paul Foley, Dan Giltrap, Pit J Goralsky, Claire Humphries, Josh Letzer, Johnny Mursa, Paul Osborne **FS1** Shakir Babil, Alex Baker, Gary Chambers, Paul Foley, Joe Frankel, Dan Giltrap, Pit J Goralsky, Lee Gravier, Michelle Letherby, Josh Letzer, Johnny Mursa, Luke Stuckock **FF1** Martin Bradshaw, Emma Cartwright, Pit J Goralsky, Jenn Hardy, Madeleine Leong, John Woodward **FF2** Lizzi Hossack **WS1** Jim Scarratt, Josh **WS2** Nick Yu **CPI** Jase Hughes **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Simon Bradbury, Stefan Campbell, Gary Chambers, Paul Foley, Dan Giltrap, Pit J Goralsky, Claire Humphries, Josh Letzer, Johnny Mursa, Paul Osborne **100** Stefan Campbell, Chris Fawcett, Paul Foley, Ash Horton **200** Vincent Adams, Josh Bregman, John Grant, Charlie Hutchinson, Andy Livingstone **400** Johnathan Smith **800** Paul Aubrey-Rees **1,000** Ed Moss **SIX HOURS IN FREEFALL** Johnathan Smith **10 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Lizzi Hossack **18 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Niels Hansen **24 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Jeremy Denning

# Back by popular demand...

**London Parachute School** has been rediscovered thriving and well near Reading!

It's great to be back in *Skydive the Mag* after a bit of a long absence. London Parachute School (previously operating from Lewknor and now Chiltern Park Aerodrome) have been very busy with our weekend tandem operation and we have had plenty of AFF coming through too, due to the luxury of having a spacious and speedy Grand Caravan flown skilfully by Matt Cunningham. There have been slots aplenty on most lifts, which has been a real pull as we've seen steady growth with a nice base of club jumpers. We have a plan for more tunnel time training this autumn too, with coaching from Ann Lewis and Mark Stone.

So, as we've been 'away', I thought I'd briefly run through the key events since our last appearance here:

- Mike Lovemore and Jo-Ann Croft became Mr and Mrs Lovemore.
- Tracy Curling and Mark Stone also tied the knot...
- ...and Mark decided to bring his brother to the DZ after Chris qualified with his AFF in Spain. They duly became the 3-way team of *Falling Stones!*
- Chris Stone rapidly gained his FS1, zipped up 50 jumps and is well on the way to 100! Not a bad season for him.
- Chris also became a new DZ lackey for Martin Harris.
- Mike Bolton, our lovely CCI, decided to become a swooper and 'Swooper Bolton' can be seen some

weekends following the landing pattern of the camera guy. Swoop! Swoop!

- Martin Harris notched up 50 years of age and we had a fab party with a live music quartet, disco and sausages.
- Mini Harris Junior is in training as the next DZ owner!
- Julie and Dennis Pearson, airfield owners and hosts to LPS, continue to astound us every weekend with their patience and co-operation as we whizz through our skydive programme under the management of Katrina Kularia and the manifest girlies (with occasional input from Martin).
- The tandem instructors have been creative in freefall, with the Pic of the Day Board heavily contended for. No-one can match The Bolt by Paul Floyd so far. However, the season is not over yet!

The Comment of the Day Board is filling up and

Tracy Stone is featured in 90% of the comments with her daily double entendres. Tracy finally got back in the air after two years out of jumping after her cycling accident, only to be back on the ground again after her metal work was removed – we wish you well and a speedy recovery, Tracy.

Ann Lewis, Katrina Kularia, Rachel Hinde-Harris and Tracy Curling will be competing in the Bodyflight Revenge Tunnel Competition in October as *Team FusterCluck!* Good luck us!

And finally, a small pitch. We welcome new club jumpers who are happy with an altitude of 10k, no membership fee and a quick ride to altitude for £20 a slot. If you are a clubbie who isn't jump-number-hungry but loves the sport or (ideally) a new qualified jumper or a 'plodder', then we are the dropzone for you. We also have a special deal for 4-way teams who want an average four-six lifts per day – contact office@londonparachuteschool.com for more info.

**Ann Lewis**



*Falling Stones 3-way. Mark Stone, Chris Stone and Tracy Stone, by Tim Lawson*

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1** John Cant, Terence Hughes, Chris Rice, Russell Upton **FS1** Chris Stone  
**JUMP NUMBERS 50** Chris Stone **100** Tony Lennard **300** Ann Lewis **1,000** Charlotte Pope

# The weather can't keep us down!



*Rob and Beth immediately after a classic skydiving proposal*

**There have been** some truly fantastic achievements over the last few weeks despite the 'summer' weather's best attempts to stop the fun. As the saying goes: "If you're not at the dropzone, you definitely won't jump!" Thank you

to all of the awesome club members and staff for keeping the atmosphere up to standard. Massive congratulations are in order for Rob Wilson and Beth Richards on their engagement. In true skydiver style, Rob surprised Beth with a proposal in freefall. Beth was absolutely delighted, giving a very enthusiastic "Yes!" upon landing. We would like to wish you both the best for the future.

The students have been showing that perseverance really does pay off with some waiting until late in the evening to keep progressing despite the wind and rain. William James and Mike Noonan achieved their first freefalls and Dave Egerton received his A Licence after a successful Category 8 jump and CH1 test. Keep up the good work,

everyone – you will be jumping with the rest of us in no time.

A few of our club members reached some significant milestones; Mary Carbutt and Gary Windon both achieved their 100th jumps and Barry Jones passed his 500th. Mary attempted her first hoop jump with Dan, Steve and Scoop while Gary decided to revisit his roots by making a static line jump from 3,500ft. Well done to you all. Hopefully this will bring some new stock to the beer fridge...

Don't forget that our Christmas party is being held at the Hawkstone Park Hotel and will be taking place on December 13. All club members (experienced and students alike) and family members are welcome. You can pick up your tickets from the dropzone reception or give the centre a call on 01948 841700.

**Mary Carbutt and Adam Roberts**

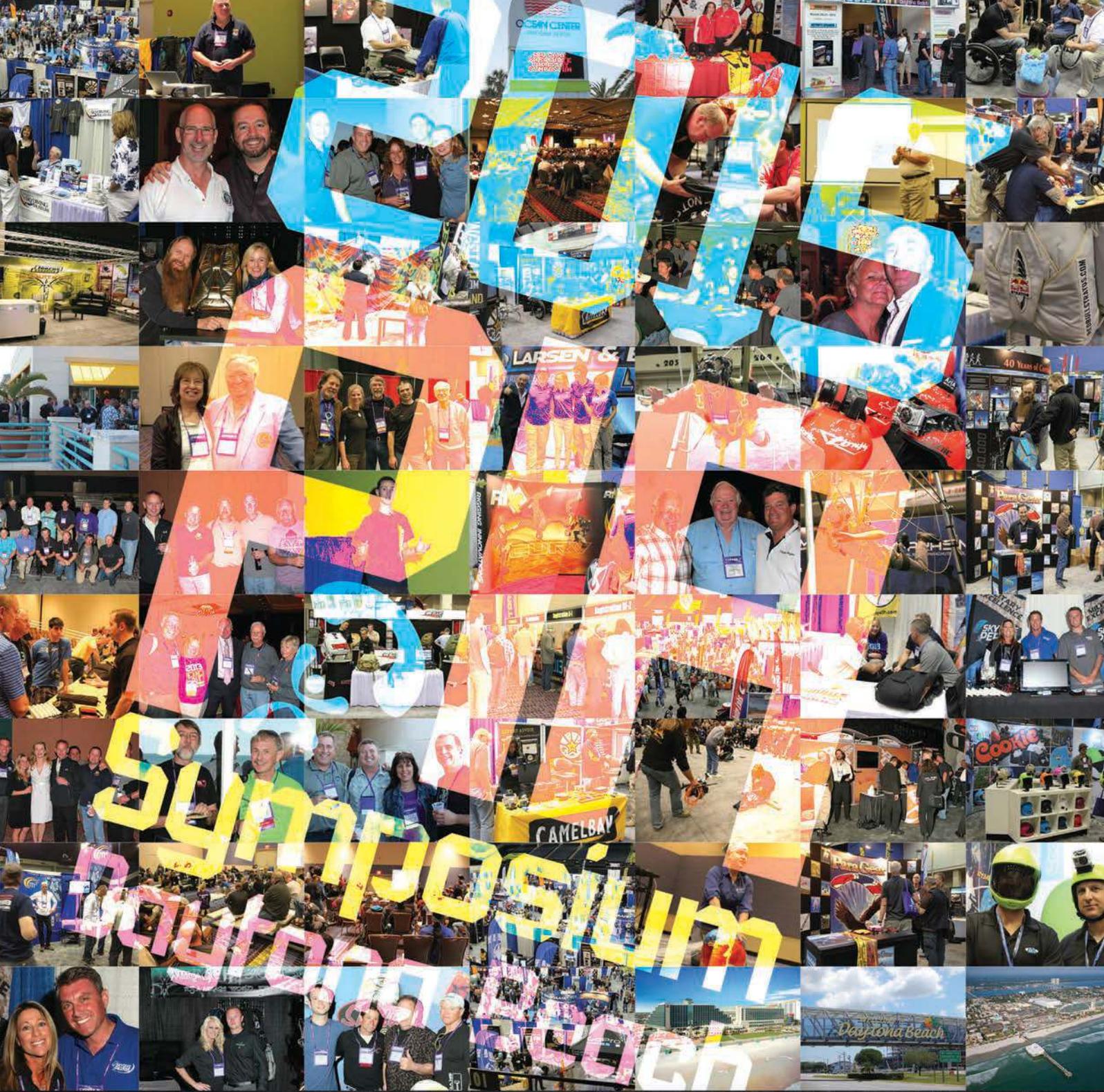
**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** William James, Mike Noonan **CAT8/CH1** David Egerton **FS1** Laura Jones  
**JUMP NUMBERS 100** Mary Carbutt, Gary Windon **500** Barry Jones **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Mary Carbutt



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## St George

skydivestgeorge.co.uk

## Thriving, by George!

Lucy Westgarth and Danny Rowlands freeflying over Durham Tees Valley Airport, by Eddie Monteith



Well, four months in and still kicking! It's been a manic time, but the club is really starting to boom. Our TIs and camera team are smashing out the charity jumps but our regular fun jumpers also founded the Yarm Free-Fall Club last month. They've had some cracking nights out in the little market town with a big nightlife and, if you'd like to join them, get on the Yarm Free-Fall Club Facebook page. Gavin Bowers is looking for more wingsuiters to join his flock

above the famous viaduct and Lucy is blazing the way with the club's freeflyers. We're in the process of setting up our new campsite, but the old officers' mess here – the St George Hotel – is still taking special rate bookings for skydivers at £30 per room for a double en suite.

At the time of writing, the last remaining Canadian-built Lancaster bomber was winging its way to us for a special event. The bomber is named after Andrew Mynarski VC, who was based here during the war and gave his life trying to save a friend. His statue now stands outside the hotel. When it arrives,

we will be parachuting in the skies above with veterans from all three services to help raise money to keep this beautiful and iconic aircraft flying. Proceeds will go to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum and the charity Age UK. This visit will also mark the start of an annual event for us – the Battle of Britain Boogie.

Our family is also growing: Andy Findlay has joined our ops team and Heather and Margaret have been knocking out some amazing food in the Old Armoury Cafe.

**Sara Heath**

## Chatteris

ukskydiving.com

## Roadshows on a roll



Some of the happy Alter Ego Project students with Curt and Jeannie Bartholomew

We made the most of the great weather at Skydive Chatteris this summer and went Coaching Roadshow mad! Not long after the last issue came out, we hosted the BPA FS Coaching Roadshow and welcomed Rai and Laura from top UK female 4-way team *Kaizen*. They spent the whole weekend at Chatteris helping students just starting FS1 and jumping with flyers who wanted more 4-way experience. Rai also had her first chop while she was here. Beer!

Then came the CF Roadshow, led by Mark Skarratts on July 19-20. A lot of our regular jumpers took advantage of the great opportunity and it really opened the door to CF for some of them.

The final BPA Roadshow of the

year was a unique visit from Joel Strickland and Steve Howes of Freefly team *Varial*. We have many freeflyers at Chatteris who all made the most of the great coaching from such skilled flyers, from one-on-one coaching to larger group jumps. With these three Coaching Roadshows alone, you could say we had a busy, but very productive summer. We also had plenty of visitors to the dropzone who have continued to come back again since, which is always good to see.

This year, we were extremely fortunate to have a weekend with the infamous Jeannie and Curt Bartholomew of the Alter Ego Project. They spent four days at the DZ and coached more than 20 skydivers of all different levels in different areas of canopy flight.

Alter Ego offer several different courses focussing on certain skill levels or areas. The Silver Course offers a great foundation for all levels, focussing on the basic aerodynamics of canopy flight, getting back from a long spot, landings and more. The Yellow Course elaborates more from the Silver course, and covers everything from understanding weather phenomena and how they affect your flight to using front and rear risers. For those who were interested in starting to swoop, they offer the Blue Course – an introduction to the safety essentials for foundation of high performance landings and the essentials of front riser work near the ground and progression to 90 degree turns. Finally, Alter Ego offer the Red Course. This is a course in advanced swooping, starting from 270° turns right up to 810° turns and the science in between. Below is a list of those who took part in the Alter Ego Project and which course was taken:

**SILVER:** Robin Auld, Matt Brocklebank, Paul Foley, Ratal Lahubonli, Martin Jarvis, Melinda Knudsen, Rowena Owen, Alison Peock, Crystal Sanchez, Jordan Webb

**YELLOW:** Lynne Mattingly

**BLUE:** Paul Bateman, Christian Bote-Kwame, Tim Freegard, Martin Jarvis, Gary Johnson, Gregg Munday

**RED:** Christian Bote-Kwame, Peter Ellias, Adam Gooch, Yo Lee, Dragos Lupu, Jon McMahon, Craig Poxon, Alex Turner

When the weather wasn't playing ball, Jeannie and Curt held some really interesting seminars on what to look for in a rig, landing off, pattern adjustments and downsizing. They were around to answer any questions, big or small, and kept everyone busy with weather games to retain canopy knowledge.

Monday saw the biggest turnout and the day ended with a canopy flock ranging from Sabre 2 150s all the way down to a Comp Velo 75. I know for a fact that everyone who took part in the courses had an outstanding time and we cannot recommend or thank Jeannie and Curt enough. Fingers crossed they'll be back next year to share some more of their incredible knowledge and skills.

And finally, back to the rest of the season. I know it's only October, but I'm pleased to tell you that this year our Christmas Party will be held on December 13. Price, theme, food and entertainment are yet to be confirmed, but keep an eye out on the Chatteris Facebook page for more details as they come.

**Robynne Haynes**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Rafal Jakubowski, Amanda Salter **FS1** Mark Henning, Alex Kean, Andrew Mines, Salim Satar **CH2/JMI** Robin Auld, Matthew Brocklebank, Harry Hook, Alex Kean, Jordan Webb **CF1** Sean Healy **FF1** Augustine Mera **FF2** Simon Fisher **WS1** Graham Ablett **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Alex Kean, Salim Satar **100** Robin Auld **1,200** Greg McEntee **13,000** Gary Small **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Alex Kean **24 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Graham Ablett

**BCPA**

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

# If you can remember it, you weren't there

Another amazing BCPA year came to a close at Nationals in August. Skydive Hibaldstow's facilities were amazing and a special thanks is due to Stubert for all his hard work and for Brian Vacher for doing three canopy courses and raising the skill and safety of our members. The week ended with not one but two records – both a 20-way sequential

record and 24-way big-way record! And, of course, the BCPA's very own brand of parties topped up what was a week to remember (for those of us that remember it, anyway). A big thank you goes to the old committee for all their hard work. The new committee has a lot of work to do to live up to last year.

As you are reading this, the new university year is in full swing and we're sure you guys all have lots of keen and wide-eyed freshers to bring to BCPA Freshers and to sign up to BCPA Easter Tour to Perris. These are just the start of what we hope is going to be an amazing year for student skydivers across the country.

In other news, Stu has been said no to, Sam is fine and Jack can, in fact bend it.

See you soon!

**Hannah Parker**

**POPS/SOS**

[pops.org.uk](http://pops.org.uk)

# Still winging it

The SOS (Skydivers Over Sixty) planned to increase the FS record up to 16 (single aircraft) or 24 (with two) on Sep 8 at an event hosted by Langar and coached by Chris Shaw. The current European record is 24 but was with five nationalities, and

this was achieved last year from 18 to 24. Three new records were set on the Saturday, each breaking the previous. The two 22-way formation loads on Sunday didn't build, which was a shame, but we do now have a new record 13-way – built and held

for more than seven seconds.

There is still a steady number of new members joining and we are now at 1,120. Wingsuiting is also increasing in popularity with POPS, with 75% of wingsuiters at Netheravon POPS alone. Mike Whyborn was the latest to try and he was so good he almost managed to land at Upavon – oops.

Two teams are off to Argentina in November for the POPS World Meet, with *Sky Vandals* scoring high in training and the Chandler/Chandler team of *Aeronauts* also going. All of the UK Accuracy team are now POPS and most of Paul French's *Mayhem Speed 8* are too.

**Jeff Chandler**

**Wild Geese**

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

# Goodbye, ye old git

As we approach autumn, we can joyfully reflect on our many summer activities thanks especially to the epic weather we enjoyed in July. This welcome change from the prevailing conditions saw a huge number of tandem students taking to the skies to fulfil their ambitions and their nominated charities benefitting appropriately. Several RAPS courses were successfully undertaken, not only allowing our students to progress in the sport but also allowing some of our club members to start getting to grips with becoming potential instructors. Some of the notable achievements within the RAPS students include Artur Michalski, David Harper, Chris Marsden and James McFall, all of whom successfully achieved their first freefall – well done guys, we're delighted for you! At club level, Tandem Instructor Mike Murphy

clocked up his 1,500th jump (not bad for an old bloke). Sports jumpers Linzi Johnston and Jo Wilson also both attained their B and C Licences respectively – well done ladies!

Our own club jumpers have been busy too, at home and abroad. A contingent from Wild Geese made the arduous journey down to the IPC for the Irish Nationals, only to be afflicted with even heavier and wetter rain than we are used to up in Northern Ireland. This, unfortunately, resulted in the competition getting cancelled. Then again, there's always next year! Resident 4-way team *Fly Wild* have spent a considerable amount of time and effort both in tunnel training and being coached by Gordon Hodgkinson. We sent them off to the UK Nationals wishing them all the very best



of luck with confidence that they would perform admirably. On foreign shores, Club Instructor Rod McCrory joined up with the infamous *Irish Swoop Team* to participate in (A.K.A. 'inflict their madness on') the CP competition at DZ Skydive Pink Klatovy in the Czech Republic. Rod was delighted at some personal achievements, coming ninth out of 87 in the Speed event with a new Irish record of 2.683 seconds as well as another Irish record of 106.2 metres in the distance event.

We have sadly had to pay our last and deepest respects to the late John McCourt. A long-time member of Wild Geese and a keen photographer, John was instrumental in promoting skydiving photography and video.

He greatly influenced many at Wild Geese in all aspects of this phenomenal sport as well as those farther afield. His sudden and tragic passing has shocked all who knew and loved him, but his passion for photography and skydiving has left a wonderful legacy of fond memories. Blue skies, John – ye old git (a private joke, and he'd have loved it).

Back at the ranch, and to finish on a happier note, everyone at Wild Geese wants to congratulate club jumper Wendy Hyland and her husband Barry on the birth of their son Oscar. Weighing in at 10lb 7oz, we are delighted that both mum and baby are doing well and have even made their first visit to the DZ. We look forward to seeing young Oscar on a RAPS course in 16 years!

So, 'til the next time, swoop hard and fast!

**The Club Rep team**

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL David Harper, Chris Marsden, James McFall, Artur Michalski CH2/JMI Linzi Johnston JUMP NUMBERS 50 Linzi Johnston 200 Jo Wilson 1,500 Mike Murphy



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## Cark

skydivenorthwest.co.uk

## Cark Week returns!

**Great weather and** great people for the start of our second Cark Week. With the weather gods with us, Speds and Anna got cracking with the load organising. The group's size increased, so Speds split the group into two and a 10-way comp was planned with each group completing the same dive. Both teams ended level but with a great amount of flying experience under their belts. Many thanks to Speds and Anna for the great coaching – which is building up for next year's big-ways...

Kev Coffey achieved his coaching status and put it to full use by organising the head-up guys along with Karim, Ming and Nadeem. Mike jumped from pilot seat to tracking guru, leaving quite a few behind on some of the tracking dives.

Our students progressed well over the week, with Amy Meadows, Lanis Jfairi and James Clarkson all completing their first freefalls and Scott McKinnon, Dan Taylor and Kyle Hannah completing their progression by qualifying CAT8. Also worth a special mention is Karan Singh, who has spent nearly

two years in our sport and, due to weather, work and study, has finally achieved his goal and gained his A Licence. Well done to all.

Helen Shaw maintained the FS side with one-to-one coaching and building up the group size for those wishing to gain their FS1s. Even a few of us lesser current staff got our knees in the breeze as the mid-week weather remained and the tandem rush subsided. Dave Hunter completed a very tidy and smooth 11-point 4-way while Helen gained her 17 hours in freefall. Cameraman Gary Hall rounded off his 1,000th skydive with a great two-point 12-way, finishing with a room dive before break-off.

As with all of our open weeks, there is always a big surprise and Tuesday didn't let us down. Just as the jump programme started, the pitter-patter of tiny feet came down the path of Skydive Northwest. Yes, Stan Peake was back in jump mode. With rig over shoulder and ready for its repack, the British CRW Champion was out of retirement. Great to see you back on the scene, Stan.

Dedric Hourde (the European PD Agent) spent a couple of days with us, offering club members the opportunity to test-jump a wide range of canopies that PD manufacture. Many took up the offer of test-jumping a variety of types and sizes of canopy. As with PD, their tell-tale colour schemes and logos littered the sunny skies as test pilots experienced their chosen canopies' performance. We will endeavour to co-ordinate next year's open week with Dedric again and will also try to bring along other equipment and suit manufacturers to test, fly and sample. Watch this space!

It's a warm welcome to little Stevey, as congratulations go out to Kelly and Steve on the arrival of their No 2 son. Congratulations to Frosty and Rachel on their impending arrival.

Remember, Christmas is just around the corner. To avoid disappointment, ensure you get your names down for the annual Christmas bash. You never know – you could be among the lucky award winners!

Congratulations to all our achievers listed below too.

**Stu Morris**



Bret, Karim and Nadeem, by Kev Coffey

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** James Clarkson, Lanis Jfairi, Amy Meadows **CAT8** Kyle Hannah, Scott McKinnon, Karan Singh, Dan Taylor **FS1** Dez Blyth, David Hunter, George Neate **FF1** Nadeem Al-Khafaji **FF2** Kev Coffey **WS1** Brett Miller **CPI** Ming Chu **CH2/JMI** Dez Blyth, Karan Singh **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Dez Blyth, Karan Singh **200** Tracey Miffilin, George Neate **300** Brett Miller **500** Ming Chu **700** Kev Coffey **1,000** Gary Hall **17 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Helen Shaw **36 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Duncan Haynes

## Swansea

skydiveswansea.co.uk

## Bring on the beers!

**A lot of** achievements over the last few months means that our beer fridge has been full to bursting. Not for long, though – we are a thirsty bunch at Skydive Swansea!

Congratulations to Martyn Lynch, Fae Yip, Justin Dewsberry, Jon Davies (Gabbie's boyfriend, not 'not Gabbie's boyfriend') and our new manifest girl Gabriella Morgan-Swinhoe on getting their shiny new A Licences and Lewis Butcher on getting his B Licence.

Our new FS coaches Anthony Andrews and Tanya Quigley have been very busy helping our club jumpers work towards their FS1s. Well done to Jean Baptiste, Lewis Butcher, Alicja Paliczka and Nick Watts, who got their FS1 stickers signed, sealed and delivered. Congratulations on the 100th jump too, Nick! A few more jump numbers to mention: Tanya Quigley celebrated her 1,000th, Shamus McCartney his 500th, Darren Porter his 300th, Chris Dutton his 200th and Will Tenison his 100th.

You would think with all these beer fines being paid our livers have taken a pasting, but apparently our CCI is still thirsty! We have coaches on hand for anyone working towards FS1 or FF1 eager to help you get those stickers and, as of July 4 2014, we are also offering

a discounted rate of £20 to currently serving military personnel too. Come play in the skies and enjoy our beautiful Gower views!

Blue skies!

**Laura Turner**



Will Tenison about to do his 100th jump... NAKED! Nice bikini, Matt Oakley!

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Jon Davies, Justin Dewsberry, Martyn Lynch, Gabriella Morgan-Swinhoe, Fae Yip **CH2/JMI** Lewis Butcher **FS1** Jean Baptiste, Lewis Butcher, Alicja Paliczka, Nick Watts **FF1** Laura Turner **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Lewis Butcher **100** Will Tenison, Nick Watts **200** Chris Dutton **300** Darren Porter **500** Shamus McCartney **1,000** Tanya Quigley

**Hibaldstow**

skydiving.co.uk

# Hib in the sky with Diamonds

**What an amazing** summer at Skydive Hibaldstow. It's felt like stunning weekend after stunning weekend on DZ, with huge event after huge event.

Summer started with the BCPA Nationals hitting the dropzone hard for their biggest event of the year. The event proved a rather large success, with a mix of teaching from Brian Vacher, FS Load organising and good-old-fashioned parties. Highlights included hundreds of skydives, a new BCPA big-way record of a 24-way, a new sequential record of a two-point 20-way, Dave West's 'Cowabunga' and naked Stubert. If you missed it, you missed out!

'Neon' Guy Wright returned to the UK to run a very interesting event at Hib, bringing out some of the best skydivers in the UK (and even further) to try their hands at 'Diamonds and Jewels'. A complex sequential big-way was the order of the day and, with them, glamorous shapes like the outfacing diamonds, nested diamonds and baseless diamonds. The event was a huge success, showing just what jumpers can achieve

right here in England. Guy is returning next year with his team to run a similar event, so keep an eye out for dates and invites.

The Hibaldstow Cup was very well attended, with 29 teams looking to win discounts for the Nationals. Though the weather was not kind, we completed in the weekend. The competition proved to be a close knit battle with jump-offs required in most of the leagues! Congratulations to *Kaizen*, who took the top slot in AAA this year, *Equal Pay 4 Women*, who won AA (by 0.09 seconds!), *Kintama*, who took first in A, and *Tetramorphic*, who took first in Rookie.

With the advent of the new building, we thought it would be time to open the centre out to the public to showcase what the DZ has become over the years. The Hibaldstow Open Day served as a grand weekend for this, with the public visiting our new clubhouse, touring our fleet of aircraft, an aerobatics show and lots going on for kids. No-one was ready for 300+ of the public to come along, though! The DZ worked hard to improve the

image of skydiving and we think it worked well!

As you read this, the Nationals are over and the season is beginning to settle down again. Fear not, though – the DZ is still hosting loads of hot events. Keep an ear out for news on the Halloween and Christmas party. It's all change!

Thanks to everyone who's made summer what it was here at Hibaldstow.

**Stubert Ferglstein**



**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Cathy Bateman, Hanna Judeh, Ashley Kershaw, James Parry, Hollie Plaxton **CH2/JMI** Pete Richardson, Bjoern Ritter **FSI** Ant Hill, Ash Mohanty, James Parry, Paul Procter, Pete Richardson **FFI** Paul Allum, Mehrdad Safaieh **FF2** Chris Mayhew **WS2** Derrick Kent **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Pete Richardson, Bjoern Ritter **100** Jay Bambridge, Jack Davies, Christina Wright **200** Sam Haste, Ben Marshall, Metaxas Nicolaidis, Bjoern Ritter **300** Louise Butterell **400** Elliott Brown, Krystian Groom, Andy Pointless, Aimee Southwell **500** Kathryn Campbell, Samuel Cavendish, Richard Cotton, Matt Lancaster, Pamela Jones, Caz Vaughan, Debbie Williams **700** Sam Davies, Ann Fleming, Stefan Richards **800** Blyth Davies **900** Clair Armstrong, Jenny Buckle, Ben Lawford **1,000** Adam Pencharz **1,100** Jonny Flowers **1,400** Des Meyer **1,500** Darren Graham **2,100** Fiona Birnie **2,300** Rob Spour **10 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Matt Lancaster

**Peterlee**

skydiveacademy.org.uk

# Open the Grand Caravan doors, Hal



The last two months have seen a lot of parachuting and progression taking place at the Peterlee DZ. We have benefited from some great weather and have had two great progression periods, with the Peterlee XPO from July 11-20 and the extended August Bank Holiday from August 20-25 respectively. Technology has taken a step forward too and it is now possible to add your name to the Peterlee DZ jump list remotely

by phone. Also, the system sends jumpers an email if your rig needs an inspection and repack.

We had a visit from Airtec on July 5 and were very grateful to be granted a BPA FS Coaching Roadshow from July 26-27 with Team *Vision99*. Many thanks to Mike Hayes and Ady King for their excellent application and coaching over that weekend, which saw some good progression – it was very much appreciated. We have benefited from two Freefly Coaching Weekends with Cez Krzyczkowski from July 18-20 and August 23-24, a Tracking Weekend with Jakub Langowski from July 11-13 and some follow-up coaching from Jakub from August 23-25.

There have also been introductions to wingsuit flying. We continue to see a resurgence of former Sunderland jumpers, with the latest to get back in the air after an absence of 21 years being Richard Line. Richard joins the likes of Roy Howarth, Alan O'Neil, David Rowell and Mick Graham, who also

had long layoffs, and it might not be long before we see an ex-Sunderland big-way in the sky. Indeed, a rejuvenated Mick Graham is among a number of jumpers gaining their FS Coach ratings and he has also now taken to camera flying too.

Some new faces have joined the Manifest team, with Paige Calder and Niel Whitfield taking over on Saturday mornings and afternoons respectively, Lisa Stephenson rejoining the team for Sunday mornings, Sally Anderson joining Michelle Tilley as a super sub and Colin Daley is now firmly installed in the DZ Office (which is now open full time from Mon-Fri). Given the weather, we will continue to open on Wed afternoons, Fri afternoons and weekends through until the end of November and on weekends until December 13-14. The Christmas function is on November 30 and we will be closed on December 1 2014.

**Ian Rosenvinge**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** Kieran Hogan, Chris Jones, Mantas Liutkevicius, Ryan Wheatley **CAT8** Sam Charlton, Chris Jones, John Welsh, Ryan Wheatley **FSI** Joe Birnie, Paige Calder, Rob Charlton, Dan Moore **JUMP NUMBERS 800** Simon Minto

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**BLACK**

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## Cyprus

skydivecyprus.com.cy

## Fun in the sun!

**Summer is well** and truly here, with temperatures becoming unbearable and winds strong. The only thing we can do is have a shutdown in August to let aching bones recover and to give our Islander a much-needed rest. Everyone knows that they will be on the ground for August, so the months leading up to it are normally our busiest!

Our students are trying to get in as many jumps as they can, with many so close to A Licence now. Pelham and George are normally the first in getting the refresher training done so they can all make first lift. Winds tend to get too high for our determined students as midday approaches, so the early

starts have really been helping them. They really are a determined bunch – packing in this heat is not ideal at the best of times, but these guys learning to pack in this heat is something else all together!

Our experienced jumpers have been very busy too, with the conclusion of the longest 4-way Championships in history and Team *Manamanam* taking the spoils over the five weeks of competition! We have had some guys achieve their FS1s and B Licences too, so maybe they can knock *Manamanam* off the top step next year?

July saw the annual Cyprus Parachute Festival and concession weekend. This meant lots of

jumping, beer, entertainment and amazing food. The intense heat that weekend nearly caused disaster as the beer fridges and taps struggled to cope, but our jumpers rallied around for this life or death situation and convoys of cars headed to the local shops and bought all of the ice on the island! Our catering staff did a fantastic job as usual and we have to thank them for keeping us all fed throughout the year!

This is normally the busiest weekend of the year, with lots of tandems, fun jumps and displays. Chas and Dylan entertained us all with a CRW demonstration and, as this was Dylan's last festival, he presented us with a new sign for the bar. The only things left that are older now are the Islander and Phil!

We give our Islander a lot of

stick but, in all reality, it does an excellent job. Our pilots are awesome and keep HD running as smoothly as possible, managing 56 lifts in five days. In this heat, that's a massive achievement for old HD!

We have also had to say a fond farewell to one of our instructors recently. Dylan Bartle has been a big part of the DZ for a while now and can be seen with AFF students and tandems following him around every weekend. Dylan was awarded his AFFI while in Cyprus and he and Chas have sent many AFF heroes through to their A Licences and beyond. Dylan will be sorely missed and we would all like to wish him good luck at his new position. Maybe we will see him back again in the future?

**Biggy Biggadyke**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** Mark Bell, Wayne Henaghen, Joe Kingswood, Hannah Snell **CATB/CHI** Maria Demetriou, Charlotte Dooley, Sean Kilkenny, Constantinos Mousikos, Shane Phipps, Stephanie Stylianou, Arran Tilley, Chris West, Al Winkler **CH2/JMI** Zissis Nikos, Andy Sphicas **FSI** Ade Bowes, Dave Wanless **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Zissis Nikos, Andy Sphicas **900** Spyros Charalambous

## Dunkeswell

skydive99.com

## Life's a (Twin) Beech

Rosie Manning at the Twin Beech Boogie, by Fraser Corsan



**A record-breaking** year for us! We were so happy with another fantastic Twin Beech Boogie, hosted here at Dunkeswell at the

end of August. This was officially the busiest Twin Beech Boogie so far, with 118 loads and well over 2,000 jumps in total! No incidents, injuries or malfunctions, and everyone had lots of fun with incredible load organisers. Massive thanks to Dave Morris for filling up the whole plane with FS jumpers – they jumped out quicker than freeflyers this year. Big thanks to Killa and Chris Lynch, who managed to do more than 100 (!) FF load organising jumps at the Boogie. This was the first time when all of the head down flyers couldn't fit on one Beech99 (the planes were taking 20 people on each load). We will be looking at doing tracking and head down formations from both Beech99s next year. Our very own IT guru Ollie Watts (and his alter ego) was

rocking the Aviator with his band on Saturday night too in a party to remember!

The Canopy Piloting Nationals went brilliantly this year and we were happy to host this amazing event again at Dunkeswell. The weather was good enough to complete all rounds of the competition. Overall gold was taken by Brian Vacher, silver by Martin Reynolds (last year's champion) and bronze by Wez Westley – see p32. Good work everyone!

This was the first year we hosted our very own Swoop99 Meet in September. More info on this in the next issue.

We are holding FS big-way and tracking weekends in October, everyone is welcome! You don't need to register for these events and load organising is free. We will be open on Wednesdays, Fridays

and Saturdays in October and Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from November onwards. We will be closed from December 14 until January 10 to give the operating staff some holiday after the best year so far. We're already looking forward to 2015, when we are aiming to break the UK's head down record in July. We will be hosting warm-up/selection weekends once a month in April, May and June with Killa and Chris Lynch too.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**October 11-12:** FS Big-way weekend  
**October 18-19:** Tracking weekend  
**December 13:** End of year party

For the latest news and updates, check out our Facebook page at Skydive UK Dunkeswell. We hope to see you soon!

**Miko**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** Jack Bint, Simon Noble, Steph Tucker, Rebecca Wilks **CATB/CHI** Charlie Barden, Marcus Deglos, Andrew Douglas, Stephanie Driver, Simon Hawkins, Max Rimington, Laura Rush, Andy Tallant, Frank Thomson, Emile Waite-Taylor **CH2/JMI** Harry Cooper, Simon Hawkins, Roofy Michael Nutman, Sandy Wilson **FSI** Phil Fairhurst, George Godfrey, Richard Hamilton, Renata Lambert-Gorwyn, Stephen Mains, Roofy Michael Nutman, Ralph Taverner, Phil Williams, Stuart Wright **FFI** Florin Cotofana, Rebecca Frew, JJ Joe Graves, Gary Townsend **WS2** Hannah Parker **JUMP NUMBERS 200** Dave Eatock, Graham McLeod, Elena Sansiveri, Mehrdad Safaie **300** Bill Booth, Ryan Craig **400** Nick Turner **500** Alan Foulkes-Williams **600** Jimmy Meen **700** David Monk, Dan Whitby **800** Richie Taylor **1,000** Jill Hewitt, Guy Wells **2,000** Laura Kenyon, Rich Lees **2,500** Michael Wilson-Roberts **3,000** Marcus Sutton **5,000** Andy Guest

# Too much on show at the Roadshow

**Freefly friendly? Why,** yes we are! The beginning of August saw us host another BPA Roadshow for Freefly skills. The Roadshow catered to all levels, from people going for their first Freefly jump to the more experienced jumpers looking to try head down and more advanced manoeuvres. All of us here at Beccles really appreciate the time the coaches took out of their busy schedules to come and share their first-rate knowledge with us, so a massive thank you has to go out to Paul Cooper and Gary Crisp. Thanks definitely have to be said to the BPA as well for funding the weekend – without their financial support, we wouldn't have had so many people get a safe and professional taste of the Freefly lifestyle.

The weekend also saw Jason Ambrose achieve his FF1 and 200th jump so, in celebration, he jumped naked – for all of you on the plane, continued counselling is available to help you get over the psychological shock and pain it caused. Olly Dean also gained his FS1 with a last-minute cheeky dive with the FS Team *Fool Run-ins*. This meant his trip to Spain the next day could be a bit more fun as he could go out and play with other jumpers. Congratulations on a slick dive, and glad we could help to make your trip away even better.

Continuing on with the FF theme, I'm super proud to announce we have our first Basic FF Coach in the form of Mike Wemyss. Ace job, bud – we're proper chuffed to finally have someone permanently about the DZ to help new FF jumpers learn the skills to stay safe and enjoy the skies in the sit position.

August also saw us rocking out on the catwalk – that is, the DZ – in new club T-shirts courtesy of Steve Neimiec. His brilliant organising saw us in new short-sleeved tops in varying colours within a matter of weeks. Thanks for making us at least look like proper skygods, Steve, even if we may not always have the skills to be them.

A huge well done and bloody good show goes out to the *RAFSPA Firefly* and *Phoenix* teams for both getting silver in 4-way FS at the Army National Championships. If there had also been medals for mincing about at the dropzone and drinking pink gins, let me tell you that these blokes would have won gold. Seriously, though, it's always great having you guys around the dropzone as you're never shy on sharing tips to improve all our FS skills. We're proud to have you guys repping not just the RAF but Beccles too.

By the time you read this, the sunset dives will have finished and I can't believe the incredible success they have been. Being able to break up the drudgery of the working week with a bit of sky flying has cheered many a club jumper's soul. Thank you to Tomo and all the staff who've helped make it possible. We're all super grateful and we're already looking forward to the summer next year when we can once again jump with the sun setting over the beautiful Suffolk coast.

I'm also really lucky to be able to announce that one of our club jumpers is expecting his first child, so immense congratulations and three cheers to Andy McMillian and his lovely fiancée Donna. We can't

wait to see the next generation of skydivers about the dropzone and you'll hopefully still have time to get some jumps in around the feeding, crying and nappy changing (and I'm not talking about the team training here!).

Look out in the next edition for the results of the Beccles teams who had entered the BPA National Championships and more news from the best DZ on the Suffolk shores. Oh yeah, and Dan Smith? This is your mention.

**James Page**



**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1** James Brooke, Neil Carreuthers, Jenni Clark, Darren Pack **CH2/JMI** Lloyd Barker, Ross Francis, Johnathan 'Freddie' Freeman, Sam Luparl, Chris Searse, Aron Stewart **FS1** Olly Dean, Mark Wilson **FF1** Jason Ambrose **CPI** Gerrit Vanzyl **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Lloyd Barker, Ross Francis, Johnathan 'Freddie' Freeman, Sam Luparl, Chris Searse, Aron Stewart **100** Olly Dean **200** Jason Ambrose, Sam Carter, Brendan Dunne **400** Terry Wilsoncroft

# You had us at 'biscuits'

**Skydive GB** has been a happy yet hectic place recently and we have encountered a constant stream of eager tandem students. Most recently, we took Dr Kate Granger for a tandem skydive. Kate has been diagnosed with a sarcoma and she identified on television that a tandem was high up on her bucket list. Kate turned up with a TV crew in tow – but, more importantly, she brought biscuits! She proved to be a fabulous lady and she raised more than £6,000 for this event alone. While Kate was under canopy, Ray Armstrong flew a flag specifically designed for the occasion that simply said 'Hi, my name is Kate'. We will probably be calling him Kate for some time...

The Thomas family have taken to the skies again over Bridlington, and this time it was Jamie and Ella (grandchildren of Lofty and Grace). Both decided that they must follow the Thomas tradition and skydive, and so they completed tandems and loved it. The lovely Grace Thomas also

celebrated her 80th birthday at Skydive GB and it seemed appropriate to get a bouncy castle for the occasion. There is photographic evidence of Grace having a blast and she did confess that this was the first time that she had been on a bouncy castle (probably not the last, though...).

Kev (Mac) McCormack has recently received the 'Shredded Wheat' Award for his example of how to plough the fields and scatter – literally. Sharon Shepherdson didn't need a combine harvester after Mac had finished. We also welcome Ben to the fold; Ben has saved the day in the packing department (though he does pack twists!) and is proving to be invaluable. Lisa Harrison is still away from the centre due to illness and we all miss her – lots. Most of us are looking quite skinny since she has been gone. Get well soon, Lisa.

A fine time has been had by all over the past two months. All we need now is an Indian summer to give us blue skies and late sunsets for a little while longer...

**Sara Orton**

## Cornish

cornishparachuteclub.co.uk

# Flocks, Paradox and falling like rocks

**It seems that** I'm writing about bigger and better things every time these articles are published and that's simply because the club continues to go from strength to strength. Record numbers of jumps have been done in the past couple of months, from tandems and AFF to club jumpers, and we have seen more visiting jumpers this summer than for any other year. Perhaps the long drive to jump out of a Cessna 206 is worth it for the views and free beer. There have been hybrid jumps, freeflyers, tracking dives and a flick of wingsuiters (like a flock, but smaller).

Maddy and Neil joined the staff on a 5-way proximity canopy flight along the coast at sunset. Jonny and Joe are loving all of the free coaching available at the club and are realising the perks of working at the centre. James Price and Ben Hulmston are now qualified skydivers and the rest of the Bodmin crew are flying through their consols. It won't be long now for Nico, Simon, Chris and Ray, who have all had great AFF courses and provided lots of entertainment for the instructors along the way. Nice one, guys!

CPC would also like to congratulate its youngest

skydiver, Rufus, on his tandem skydive in Belgium – the first of many, we're sure! We have done some great demos recently, which include the annual Captain's Day at the coastal golf club, the opening of a private music festival on the St Agnes Beacon and an amazing sunset display outside the Watering Hole pub on the beach for a big charity Fire Walk.

Caroline and her big birthday crew made their annual trip to the DZ – great to see you and thanks for the cake. Awesome to see 8-Ball and Popey in the skies over Cornwall again too – it's been too long.

We welcome former Marine Terry Knights to the pilot team. He seems to fit in well around crazy people doing crazy things, and we will get him up in that plane strapped to the front of one of us soon. Chris Fowler has had an amazing year flying with the club and we're pleased to announce him as the new Club Chief Pilot – we know you will do a sterling job. Thanks to Stefan for covering the position for us in the interim and we're pleased to still have you as part of the staff as a pilot examiner.

Finally, a date for your diaries. On November 28-29, we will be open for all club jumpers for jumping the DZ at Perranporth – the beach will be cleared for jumping on both days and the legendary end of season party will be on Saturday night. There will be live music from Paradox, with lead singer and club jumper Tim to entertain us through the night, and a couple of surprises for all attending...

Stay safe until the next time from all at CPC!

## Ben Wood



Rufus' tandem with dad Andy Montriou

## Swindon

skydivelondon.co.uk

# Citation needed

**Traffic cones were** invented by an American called Charles D Scanlon in 1940 and were first used in the UK in 1958. The first plastic traffic cone is allegedly the invention of a Brit called David Morgan from Burford, Oxford (home of ex-skygod and master mechanic Buncey). According to Wikipedia, the fount of all knowledge, the definition of a traffic cone is: "also called traffic pylons, road cones, highway cones, safety cones, witch's hat, or construction cones, that are usually cone-shaped markers that are placed on roads or footpaths to temporarily redirect traffic in a safe manner".

I am sure you are all wondering what this is about and why I am educating you on an inanimate object. Our beloved Airvan is, as I type, out of action due to said inanimate object when, after a gentle taxi, the cone moved at high speed and struck the prop. One

would think the cone would be decimated and all would be well – but, alas, no. The prop has bent and the engine has been shocked. After a quick tweak of one of Brucie's many spreadsheets, a few glasses of port and some sulking, the engine has been removed and a very large bill is on its way. Rumour has it that Tyyyrreellll and Jasper were in close proximity but, as no one has seen or heard from them since, it's just speculation.

However, before this, we actually did some jumping. I even managed a fun jump with the guys, although Cath wasn't anywhere to be seen on the tracking dive. We have a lot of students coming through as well – Natalia, Karen, Elle, Hemmel, Andy Kilpatrick, John Guy and Aaron Doy now all have A Licences. Patrick Homes is loving Level 3, so much so that he has repeated it a few times. Doog almost opened the door on the

Airvan, but had to ask Lucy to show him the girly way and still failed. Jon Eeles is now one of our top cameramen and I for one would like to say "about time, big man!" It's a pleasure to fly with you, but I was a little hurt when you asked Mattridge to take Nathan on his 16th birthday.

Joel Gluth's team managed a bronze in the AAA Hib Cup, probably because Joel wasn't there – nor has he jumped at Redlands for a while, but he did request a mention. Hazel finally managed 100 jumps after having more injuries than Michael Owen. Arek set his alti to speed and wondered why he was at 123ft for most of his skydive. Snake is very quiet; I am told he did something wrong, as did Cath and Tyyyrreellll, and all have beer fines. Darrell is teaching canopy control now, especially the art of downwinders, and Dan Morgan still isn't speaking to me after I explained the art of looking good. Simon Clark got married, to a woman, and is promising that he won't change. GK1 has managed 100 jumps and

also his B Licence. Jonny Moulder is being held together with sticky tape and stubbornness. Mark Benson is still trying to be a full-time skydiver and is cancelling more than he is attending. Mattridge is still thinking he is No 1 and Dunny is far too tight to get his own reserve repacked. Our packing team is still, by far, the most attractive in the UK and can give awesome massages. Rob Spour has also managed 2,300 jumps and is our most (and only) successful export. Everyone else has stayed for the greater good as we are a family (well, a cult – same thing). Crazy!

But I'd like to make a special mention for our Middle Eastern friends, Naser Buqrais and Nahi Alharbi, who have managed to achieve their B Licences and FS1s before a sad return to fly F15s and helicopters in the Gulf. Godspeed, chaps, and you know you are always welcome. We will all miss you. Well, apart from Brucie, who is enjoying the peace and quiet.

**Dylan Griffith-Jones**

**ACHIEVEMENTS CATS/CHI** Aaron Doy, Elle, John Guy, Hemmel, Karen, Andy Kilpatrick, Natalia, CH2/JMI Nahi Alharbi, Naser Buqrais, GKI **FSI** Nahi Alharbi, Naser Buqrais, Andrew Griggs **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Nahi Alharbi, Naser Buqrais 100 GKI, Hazel Tyrrell 2,300 Robert Spour

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# Headcorn

headcorn.com

## Sunshine and skydiving

**It's official! Summer** has been awesome at Skydive Headcorn so far. We had a great July and were able to jump every day of the month except one – everyone needs a day off!

Pete Sizer (our CCI), Janos Leszko, Dave Crowhurst, Steve Hastings and Esther Reynolds left us on August 15 to represent the UK at the World Championships in Bosnia (a working holiday!), competing in the Accuracy discipline. We hope that, by the time this goes to press, we have had a great result – see p20. Meanwhile, Charlie Wakeham and Mary Barratt are back from competing in CF at the Dutch Nationals and managed to come home with a bronze medal in Rookie.

Our 'Walk up Wednesday' FS day each week is now more successful than ever, with many lucky jumpers working towards and achieving their FS1. We have daily FF coaching by our resident FF Coach Si Beech, increasing the number of jumpers being introduced to the discipline and achieving their FF1. We also have WS and CF coaching available on some weekdays, so we are bursting with progression from all angles.

Congratulations to Chris Lynch and Henry Van Halewyn on their performance at the Swoop Nationals at Dunkseswell in July. Chris came fifth in Zone Accuracy and Speed and sixth overall. Henry came fourth in Zone Accuracy and eighth overall.

An impressive result with some stiff competition for sure!

Chris Lynch is working on the next date for his Wingtips Swoop Training Camp. This is for beginners and those already swooping who wish to further their skills. Dates will be coming soon, so watch this space and keep an eye on our FB page for updates, news and other activities coming up.

The new DZ BBQ has seen a bit of action recently, including a BBQ on one of the evenings of the recent instructor course held here. Plenty of BBQs for the rest of the summer to come yet!

We have a new pilot, Richard Pickin, who has now fully checked out and is flying the Caravan on some weekdays.

Our now-established and ever-popular receptionist Georgie made her 100th jump – a hybrid with Andy Gaskell and Georgie providing a far from stable base for Si Beech to have his work cut out hanging around on! 200 next for Georgie...

Simon (Sopey) Soper and Mary-Lou Barratt have just returned from the CF Grand Prix at Netheravon with gold in the 2-way sequential event. What a great achievement this is, as they only recently decided to compete and have done

Charles Henley (89 years young) on another textbook exit, by Si Beech



minimal training – well done them! Well done also to Mark Smith and Mark Bayley for their gold and Charlie Wakeham (Team *Snow White and the Dwarf of Doom*) for the silver in the Rookie event. Finally, well done to our own Marcus Muir Smith for gold in the senior event with his Team *Air Biscuit*.

The last couple of months have seen a welcome increase in visiting jumpers joining us to make for great days and evenings. With the renovation of the accommodation, jumpers have experienced DZ luxury and the feedback has been excellent. Skid Row has never looked so good!

So let's crack on with what we do best; jumping and partying when the beer light is on. We're looking forward to another great few months, with club members and new visitors always welcome.

Blue skies

**Si Beech**

**ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL** Kane Badman, Junjie Liu **AFF GRADUATE** Seb Carwath, Will Savage, Thaddeus Toms, Kyrilos Vourlakidis, Piotr Warso **CATB/CHI** Amy Buckle, Sam Everest, Kata Farago, Patrick Lim, Jacob Rees, Nathan Wigg **CH2/JMI** Sean Cawley, Jon Hobbs, Jason Landridge, Josh Rex **FSI** Dave Hillwood, Wayne Kennedy, Kelley Peto, James Wigzell **FFI** Alex Leslie, Chad Smith **WSI** Geoff Cowell, Mike Hitchcock, Charlie Puttick **CFI** Charlie Wakeham **JUMP NUMBERS 100** David Griffith-Jones, Georgie Rhodes **200** Alex Leslie **300** Chad Smith, Simon Soper **400** Charlie Wakeham **500** Geoff Cowell, Trevor Cowell **600** Si Beech **700** Mary Lou Barratt **800** Holly Goodfield, Sam Laming **1,500** Trevor Cowell **2,000** Janos Leszko, Henry Van Halewyn

# Jersey

skydivejersey.net



Alun Griffiths, who likes to do things differently, relaxing at 9,000ft with a smoke on his 1,000th jump. By Nigel O'Brien

**ACHIEVEMENTS JUMP NUMBERS**  
**500** Simon Griffiths **1,000** Alun Griffiths

## Straight up and straight down

**The Cessna's wheels** have been off the ground fairly regularly thanks to the recent consistent weather and this has seen some milestone jumps achieved by the Griffiths brothers. Congratulations to Alun, who has had his head in the sky for more than 1,000 jumps, and to Simon, who has busted through the 500 jump mark.

Our fearless pilots are also smashing through the flying hours, with Brian Heath clocking up more than 1,000,000 vertical feet – equal to 100 flights navigating the meat bomber over Jersey and Guernsey. James Evans is in hot pursuit and will soon have 100 flights in action

for the club too. They've both seen some pleasant views and happy faces while with the club, so I'm sure that makes it all worthwhile. Congratulations to all – they'll have some stories for you if you buy them a drink at the bar!

Mally has recently obtained permission from the BPA to run static line courses in Jersey, and this is a good option for skydive students who want to progress towards being a qualified skydiver locally as we don't run the AFF course here. If you want to register your interest for the courses starting later in the year, have a word with Mally.

That's some of the good news dealt with, and we hope to have the injured souls back in the sky as soon as possible. I won't mention any names, but get back on your feet soon and we look forward to your return to the skies!

The flying circus is packing its bags and is off to our sister island Guernsey again for our annual jumping weekend onto the smaller rock. Look out for pics and news in the next edition.

Blue skies!

**Nigel O'Brien**

**What a summer!** Probably our best July ever – we jumped every day of the month, and that was in an uninterrupted run of 42 beautiful skydiving days!

Twenty-four teams took part in the UKSL Grand Prix at Langar in July, with 11 teams composed of local jumpers. All six rounds were completed, with Langar teams *Lowabusa* and *Tenacity* winning gold and bronze respectively in the top AAA class. In AA, Langar's *Funnel Vision* took the silver medal while, in the A class, local teams *Hard Corps* and *Almost Petite* won gold and bronze. Another great competition weekend for all.

For the Bullet Freely tracking weekend, we had Skydive Northwest's PAC 750 XL as our third aircraft. Along with the freeflyers, several groups of flat-flyers joined in with the event and some damn fine skydives were had by all. Approximately 400 tracking jumps altogether!

# The meaning of life, the universe and skydiving

Milko was one of the organisers for August's successful 100-way out-facing diamond record at Skydive Pink Klatovy in the Czech Republic. Several Langar jumpers were involved, including staff members Gary 'Swoop' Wainwright on camera, Will Cooke, Billy Payn and Siân Stokes (who got the glory slot on the front point of the formation). Nice job all round, people – see the pic on p4-5.

Midweek jumping has been even busier than ever! With the British Nationals approaching rapidly, we've had quite a few 4-way teams here taking advantage of the high activity level to get in some last-minute training.

As I write, Ally Milne (VFS) and Phil Curtis (8-way FS) are competing at the World Championships in the Czech Republic, so good luck to both of them. Of course, by the time you read this, the actual results will be ancient history, but that's modern living for you...

More skydiving to come (we don't stop for winter) and, of course, there are events to keep everyone going through the short winter days and parties for the long winter nights! Watch us at facebook/skydivelangar to stay abreast of developments.

**Tony Danbury**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AFF GRADUATE** Josh Bryon, Will Carew-Jones, Matt Lock, Carl Sandford **CAT8/CHI** Elle Flynn, Mark Hart, Jess Herman, Ed Hill, Simas Jermosenka, Ivan Jobling, Matt Keynes, Eve Mason, Dan May, Maria Metzger, Tyler Priestley, Phil Rolfe, Lizzie Swanton, Honum Yip **CH2/JMI** Meg Carey, Linley Ewing, David Gagno, Florine Patty **CFI** David Gagno, Hannah Porter **FSI** Emily Aucott, Rich Drabble, Linley Ewing, Rosie Manning, Tyler Priestley, Collette Williams **FFI** Josh Carratt, Rhys Easton, David Gagno, Steve Padmore, Florine Patty **FF2** Dave Bloomfield, Lizzi Hossack, Charlie Mogridge, Adam Potter, Guy Stanley **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Shaun Gill, Pete Priaulx **100** Linley Ewing, David Gagno, Florine Patty, Pete Piggin **200** Chris France, Dylan Morris-Roberts, Rob Smith, Kelly Spittle **300** Rachel Edgson, Si Flisher, Jill Judd, Charlie Mogridge, Hannah Porter, Alex Whitehead **400** Jonathan Charles, Roy Wimmer **500** Charlie Mogridge, Paul Rimmington, Matt Willson **600** Cath Anderson, Paul Monaghan **800** Ben White **900** Emma Pilkington **1,300** Ryan Briddon **1,700** Nick Robinson **7,000** Ally Milne **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** David Gagno, Sam Moule **24 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Nick Robinson **60 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Martyn Score

# Black Knights rising

**We've had another** busy couple of months here at BK. The weather has been amazing and we've made massive progress everywhere as well as on our sun tans. Our AFF and RAPS students have jumped themselves silly with qualifications and licences being achieved on a weekly basis, the FS and FF students have been owning the sky and Paul should be running out of stickers by now. We've managed to make plenty of tandem students very happy in the last month alone.

Our summer party night was a huge success, with a full day of excellent jumping in various states of undress followed by an evening of party games, bright costumes and our very own Tom Bartlett storming to dance-off victory in his bikini briefs. Never has the phrase "what happens on the dropzone, stays on the dropzone" been more

relevant. Massive thanks to Cath and Mark for co-ordinating the event and to everyone who helped make it happen.

The renovation of the hangar is nearly complete and it's looking amazing, complete with chill-out area, classroom, gym, new student training facilities and extended packing area. Watch this space for further developments – we're not finished yet!

The Flight-1 course with Brian Vacher was a great success and our club members have made excellent progress with their canopy skills. We'd like to thank Brian for putting this on for us and he'll be back again soon – watch this space.

On a personal note, I have recently completed my FS Coach rating to

grow our team of coaches once again. I'd like to thank everyone who helped me along the way and look forward to helping out with FS progression at the DZ along with the rest of the gang.

We've added even more open days and weeks to our calendar, and regular midweek jumping is now taking place with tandems, load organising, coaches and instructors all available. Don't forget that midweek jumping

for club members is only £18 to 15,000ft, so take a day off work and come join us – you know it makes sense.

Finally, I'd like to give our beloved Chris Nelson a mention just for being his cheerful, charming, part-of-the-furniture self. We do appreciate you, Chris!

Blue skies

**AJ**



Our beloved Blackhawk and our club members in their skimpies, by David Simpson

**ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CHI** Chris Dronsfield, Graham Low, Connor Lynch **CH2/JMI** Tom Bartlett, Michael Doherty, Ben Egan, Catherine Leather **FSI** Michael Doherty, Ian Longbottom **FFI** Matthew Flood **FF2** Dave Bloomfield **WSI** Richard Hamnett, Elliott Mitchell, Chris Nelson, Robert Smith, Stuart Taylor **WS2** Carl Marsh **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Tom Bartlett, Michael Doherty, Ben Egan, Catherine Leather **100** Michael Doherty **200** Mark Lord, Sue Nuttall **400** Carl Marsh **900** David Simpson **1,000** Roger Hughes **1,500** Phil Symons **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Matthew Flood, Catherine Leather, Neil Roberts, David Smith **THREE HOURS IN FREEFALL** Mark Lord **EIGHT HOURS IN FREEFALL** Dave Butterworth **24 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Roger Hughes

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# Paragon

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## Doogie Boogie

**There has been** a wonderful buzz at Paragon lately with lots going on, the first-ever Paragon Doogie Boogie was held at the beginning of August and, in true Paragon style, with many BFNs (beer fine notifications).

We were fortunate enough to jump from a beautiful Douglas C47 fondly called *Union Jack Dak*. This historic aircraft flew on D-Day, towing Waco CG4A gliders over the beaches of Normandy. It is likely that she also participated in dropping paratroopers during the second invasion wave. After her war years, she was converted to a DC3 and flew passengers for West Coast Airlines before being used, among other duties, as a jump ship. Now fully restored to former glory, this is truly a very special aircraft and was an honour to jump.

The *Paragon Parachute Display Team* completed two demos from

the aforementioned aircraft into Fort George Infantry Barracks of Inverness as part of the 'Celebration of the Centuries', commemorating 100 years since the outbreak of WWI. The demo jumps will remain a very special memory for all involved for a very long time. A huge thanks to everyone who made it possible, especially pilot John Dodds and co-pilot also-John. There are too many others to mention here, but you know who you are. Thank you!

Demos and Boogies aside, we have all been busy at Paragon lately. We have had two marriage proposals; one was in the plane and the other was laid out on the ground, Fandango-style, for a tandem student to see from the air. This initially caused some confusion, with the student thinking her Instructor

was popping the question! However, it all ended happily with a yes to both proposals.

All of the Paragon regulars would like to congratulate Graham Fraser on gaining his B Licence – well done Graham, and keep up the good work. Congratulations also go out to Paragon part-timer Pete Cuthbert for reaching the 300 jump milestone.

It's back to business now for what is left of the summer but, with the annual pilgrimage to Empuriabrava looming on the horizon, I am sure there will be plenty to update you on in the next issue.

Blue skies

**Markie D10168**



DC3 Boogie aircraft

**ACHIEVEMENTS CH2/JMI Graham Fraser JUMP NUMBERS 50 Graham Fraser 300 Pete Cuthbert**

# Sibson

skydivesibson.co.uk

## Whatever you do, don't mention the plane!

**As you will** no doubt be aware, our Caravan has been delayed during its service through August – causing us massive problems. Believe me when I say that Grant has been working furiously behind the scenes to try and arrange aircraft from here, there and everywhere. We have to say a special thanks to James Swallow, who has gone above and beyond to help us out. To that end, I also extend our gratitude to our fun jumpers – you guys have stuck by us while we have had limited capacity, for which we are very thankful. Moving on, our aircraft should be back by the time we read this in the Mag.

Even with reduced capacity, Killa's groups have still been in to do the warm-ups for the head-up record. All is going pretty well from what I hear.

The AFF School has gone from strength to strength in recent months and we are constantly busy training new AFF guys every week. Last weekend, for instance, we had eight in on ground school. All jumped and there was a 100% take-up for the rest of the course. There will be four new ones starting next weekend.

Brian Vacher sure has been busy with us and he has recently held several Flight-1 courses. Many of the guys have done the 101 and 102 courses and, just last weekend, we had 201 and 202 advanced courses taking place – even if it was a bit gusty...

Well done to Sibson FS teams *Perpetual Chaos*, who took the gold at the UKSL at Langar, and *Bodyflight Aero*, who also took gold in AA at Langar and gold at the Nethers UKSL. Great effort by the teams and well done from us all.

Congratulations to Claire Kirby and Maxwell Hill, who just got married. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Hill from all of us here at Sibson.

Special mention this issue for Jorge Harrington, who has completed his 15th tandem with us. Jorge has officially done more tandems than me this season – he has his own jumpsuit and his own altimeter. Well done, mate.

So, as we settle down following the aircraft dramas of the summer, we are going all-out for the rest of the season. Come and give us a try.

**I NEED PHOTOS AND ACHIEVEMENTS!** As usual, I am still looking for good photos and achievements to go in to 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](http://skydivesibson.co.uk/events) to keep up to speed with all the happenings at UK Parachuting Sibson.

**Paul Dorward**



Chris Mcann deploying his new canopy, by Nick Davison

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## 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 13-17

**BPA** Tandem and AFF Instructor Course

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

October 18

**CP** Basic Canopy Skills with Wez Westley

Location: **Netheravon** · netheravon.com

October 18-19

**CP** Canopy Handling Course with Keiron Hayes

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

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

**B/F** Bonfire Night

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

November 1-8

**CP** CP World Championships

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

November 3-7

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

Location: **Hibaldstow** · bpa.org.uk

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** Freely with Paul Cooper

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

November 26-December 7

**U** DIPC Competition

Location: **Dubai** · eaf.ae/event/dipc5

November 30

**B/F** Christmas Party

Location: **Peterlee** · skydiveacademy.co.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: **Chatteris** · ukskydiving.com

December 13

**B/F** Christmas Party

Location: **Tilstock** · theparachutecentre.com

## 2015

January 24 2015

**BPA** Skydive the Expo and BPA AGM

Location: **EMCC, Nottingham** · skydivetheexpo.co.uk

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**





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Originally printed on p16 of the December 1975 issue of Sport Parachutist, the old name for the Mag

## A REMARKABLE ESCAPE

On Saturday 18th October at Ashbourne occurred a truly incredible incident — incredible because no one was fatally injured. On the third lift of the day Cessna 182 G-ARWL took off with a student lift to be dispatched by potential instructor Derek Scofield. The first student jumped without incident. The aircraft made a second pass over the D.Z. at 2,500 feet, and the second student, Stuart Avent, was given the exit command. Whilst moving to the exit position he slipped between the strut and the starboard oleo leg. He hung vertically from the strut before letting go. The main parachute deployed at this stage and entangled around the starboard oleo leg. Derek Schofield initiated the "hang-up" procedure, ordering the pilot, Ken Miller, to climb before starting to chop the canopy away with a knife. Some 15 seconds later the student parachutist activated his reserve parachute, which deployed normally. This deployment stalled the aircraft, pulling it into an inverted nose-down position. The engine stopped and the aircraft, with the instructor, pilot and third student still aboard, descended, rotating slowly, suspended beneath the second student and his inflated reserve canopy. The aircraft struck the ground on the edge of the airfield in this position. Ken received a broken jaw in two places, Derek two broken femurs, whilst the third student, Miss Francis Ives broke both her ankles. Happily all are well on the road to recovery.

G. C. P. S-S.



How the 182 withstood its PLF.



3 parachutists, 1 pilot and Cessna 182 descending beneath an Irvin I24!  
photos—Eddie McBride

# THERE I WAS...

## STORIES FROM THE SEVENTIES

**Some skydiving stories** are so incredible that they're still being told today, and this is one of them. October 1975 saw Derek Schofield survive what should have been a hopeless accident after his student pulled their reserve while hung up behind the aircraft. This stalled the Cessna 182 and caused it to crash. Derek is still working in skydiving and can usually be found on DZ control at Hibaldstow. If it's jumpable, ask his advice about the run-in and what the winds are doing – he knows this sport inside out and you're guaranteed to learn something. If it's not jumpable, buy him a beer and ask him to tell you some stories – he's got a few good ones...

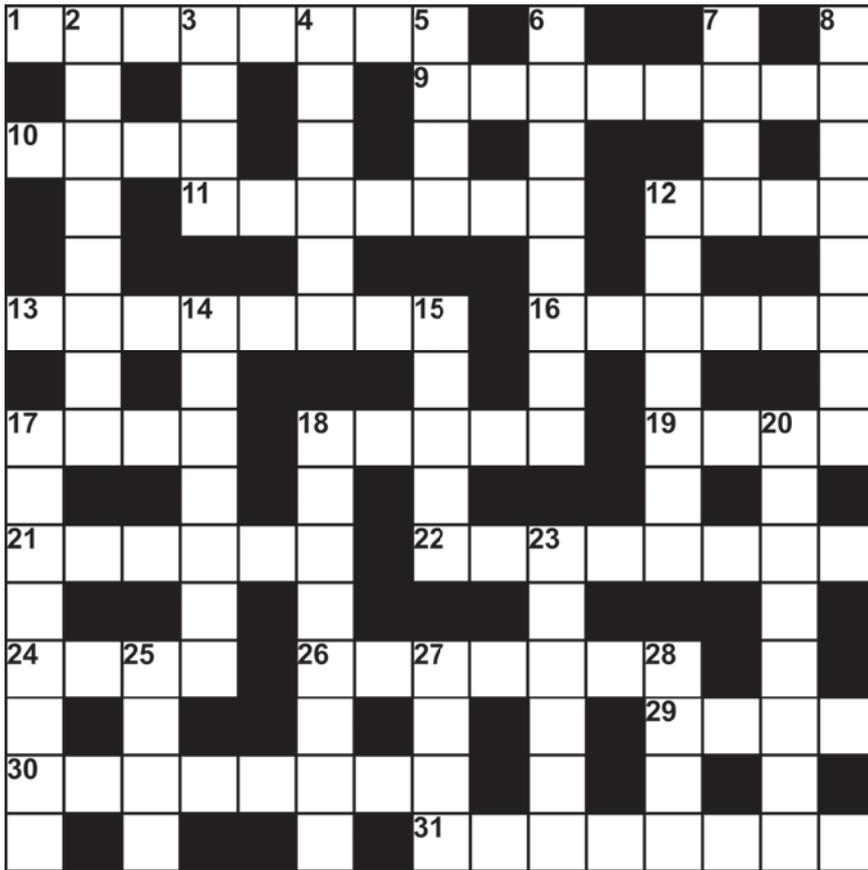


By Rich Cotton



Paul Boorer

# PUZZLE



### Across

- 1. Off the ground
- 9. List of passengers or cargo
- 10. Forrest Gump's box of chocolates
- 11. Secondary chute
- 12. Announced
- 13. Terminal velocity (4,4)
- 16. Vital gas
- 17. Display jump
- 18. Edged tool
- 19. Biblical book between John and Romans
- 21. Educational establishment
- 22. Lateral flying movement (4-4)
- 24. Cardinal point
- 26. Give permission
- 29. Illegal drug
- 30. Left an aircraft
- 31. Hearing protectors

### Down

- 2. Begin
- 3. Vital fluid!
- 4. Military skydiving club (initials)
- 5. Arabic Prince
- 6. Physical limits of aircraft operation
- 7. Greek sheep's cheese
- 8. Pupils
- 12. Short SC.7 aeroplanes
- 14. Observer
- 15. Leaves an aircraft
- 17. Loses altitude
- 18. Device for collapsing pilot chute (4,4)
- 20. Fine tuning of aerodynamic control surfaces
- 23. Jeopardy
- 25. Drinks in small amounts
- 27. Cypher
- 28. Member of the nobility

# CARTOON



Across  
 1. Airborne 9. Manifest 10. Life 11. Reserve 12. Said 13. Fall rate 16. Oxygen 17. Demo 18. Knife  
 19. Acts 21. School 22. Side-slip 24. East 26. License 29. Acid 30. Depended 31. Earplugs

Down  
 2. Initiate 3. Beer 4. RAFSPA 5. Emir 6. Envelope 7. Feta 8. Students 12. Skyvans 14. Lookout  
 15. Exits 17. Descends 18. Kill line 20. Trimming 23. Danger 25. Ships 27. Code 28. Earl



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