



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com August 2016

skyDIVE

SINCE 1964

the mag



INSIDE: COMPS TIPS AND TRICKS FALL IN WITH THE PARACHUTE ENGINEERING SQUADRON
CYPRES CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY STALLS MASTERCLASS MAKING 8-WAY LOOK EASY
WITH MICROCLIM8 SUMMER COMPS ROUNDUP PLUS ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

Come skydive in Central Spain -

Beginner and intermediate courses available

The Freefall University is an independent skydiving school based in Ocaña 20 minutes south of Madrid. We are located minutes away from the modern city of Aranjuez which has all the nightlife you can handle. We have our own equipment, qualified rigger, British Instructors, facilities and professional ethic.

We cater for holiday makers who wish to do an AFF course and also have BPA coaches full time for FS1 and FF1, FF2 and CH1. Remember we have a vibrant mid week dropzone so getting the jump numbers you want on holidays is not a problem.



One Instructor, One Student.

We provide you with your own exclusive UK AFF Instructor to personally see you through your course from ground school to completing your level 8. This means no waiting for 'your turn', leaving you free to focus on skydiving.



Good Links with UK Dropzones.

We are an establishment school and graduates who have completed our course have been well received on UK dropboxes. We offer an unparalleled level of after course support which is why many of our students choose to return for a second holiday in the sun. We can also thanks to our BPA qualified team sign your British License paperwork onsite.



Package Deal. What you want, when you want.

Talk to David or Lola in customer service about what type of package you would like. Whilst many things are included free such as video of all your skydives there are many options. For example you might want a car to visit Madrid or prefer to have your own hotel room. We can mix and match based on your requirements and you can have your holiday at a time that suits you!

Jump all day and don't get bored in the evening!

The FFU Ocaña is the home of the Madrid Skydivers. It is also host to turbine aircraft, the Swiss national teams and some of the best facilities a skydiving centre can offer, of note is a 30km2 landing area, swimming pool, onsite hotel and bar/restaurant. Madrid is home to Europe's largest wind tunnels.

Aranjuez where we 'hang out' in the evenings is a modern city of 100,000 Spanish city workers who make the short daily commute to Madrid, European city of culture for 2005. Alternate activities, restaurants, music bars, clubs and skydivers bars number in the hundreds!

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.

Sample Package available.

Silver Package Budget	£1399
------------------------------	--------------

- Return flights LGW, Luton, Liverpool.*
- Transfers / Car Hire 7 days
- 7 days 2** private hotel room
- 8 level AFF Course with British Instructor

✓ Recommended Upgrades	Prices
• BPA A License (10 Solos with kit) CH1 etc.	£390
• 15 Wind Tunnel flights as part of ground school	£160
• Group Discount	£Call
• Military Discount	£Call

Call our London office on **020 7870 2505**
7 days a week, 9am – 8pm or contact us
online at **www.freefalluniversity.co.uk**



Cover: BPA Wingsuit
Rep Jackie Harper in her
Scorpion, by husband
and National Champion
Spike Harper

Welcome and Contents:
Freefly team Parallel,
by Paul Dewey



The PES article on p25 this issue made me smile. I'm a teacher and the Mag is a second job/hobby for me, so I often find myself squeezing it in around lesson planning, marking, jumping and everything else I try to juggle. This particular article was put together while I was on a mini skydiving training camp, so I did nine jumps and then worked on the article on my way home. Rick Boardman (who, incidentally, was my supervising Rigger when I did my Advanced Packer and Parachute Rigger ratings) has written about the high standards and time taken over main pack jobs in the military – it's comparable to what we expect from reserve packing – but only that day I had been on nine back-to-back lifts out of nine, with only two 20-minute breaks to refuel. My team had used two rigs each and one packer had kept us going easily (thanks Rezzy) – what a contrast!

Something else that made me smile was Headcorn's club news. I know some people only read news from their own DZ, but it really is good to hear what's going on all over the UK. I love reading about the little things that make our sport what it is – the 100th jumps and beer fines and, in Headcorn's case, their 91-year-old static line jumper who has finally retired from the sport! All the best, Charles.

Liz Ashley



VOLAMOS?
#MORETHANATUNNEL



WD WINDOOR
TÚNEL DE VIENTO - WIND TUNNEL EMPURIABRAVA



IN THIS ISSUE

03 Welcome

to the August issue of *Skydive the Mag!*

06 Info Zone

Who to contact and how

08 News Zone

How to skydive without opening a parachute and live to tell the tale

10 BPA Zone

News and announcements from the offices of the BPA

14 Comps Zone

The highlights of 2016, and what you still have left to look forward to

19 Are you ready?

Dr Anna Hicks of *NFTO* has comps advice for aspiring champions

25 Fall in

Meet the RAF's Parachute Engineering Squadron

31 Cypres

The German giants of skydiving tech celebrate 25 years of saving lives

36 Stalls

How well do you know your canopy's slow flight characteristics?

39 8-way masterclass

Tips and tricks from *MicroClim8* themselves

42 Progression Zone

Are you making a crucial mistake without realising it when you land?

46 Safety Zone

To RSL or not to RSL? That is the question

50 Gear Zone

Remember: it's only four months until Christmas...

53 DZs

How to contact DZs and parachuting societies

54 Club Zone

The latest news and pics from a DZ near you

82 Events Zone

Dates for your diary

INFO ZONE

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

dialogue

ARCHANT } ARCHANT DIALOGUE IS PART OF
ARCHANT COMMUNITY MEDIA

Liz Ashley EDITOR

Mike Waters PRODUCTION EDITOR

Matt Copland DESIGNER

Lucy Bendall ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

Kay Brown ADVERTISING PRODUCTION

Mel Wilcockson ACCOUNT DIRECTOR

Jamie Kent FINANCE DIRECTOR

Richard Berry ART DIRECTOR

Jon Lilley CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Zoë Francis-Cox PUBLISHING DIRECTOR

Gavin Miller MANAGING DIRECTOR

© BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD 2016

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form; electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, without prior permission of the Editor.

The views expressed in *Skydive the Mag* are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the BPA. Opinions in the editorial are those of the Editor, not of the BPA. The Editor retains the right to withdraw any advertisement at her discretion and does not accept liability for delay in publication or for errors, although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes.

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 CI.

BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD

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

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

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

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

Patron His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

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

Council and Committee Chairs

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

Craig Poxon Vice Chair craig@bpa.org.uk

Brian Vacher Competitions Chair brianv@bpa.org.uk

Craig Poxon Development Chair craig@bpa.org.uk

Adrian Bond Communications Chair adrian@bpa.org.uk

Jeff Montgomery STC Chair jeff@bpa.org.uk

Paul Applegate Riggers Chair 01869 277469

paul.applegate@tesco.net

Council Members

Gordon Blamire gordon@goskydive.com

Jack Bradford jack@altitudesolutions.co.uk

Brian Cumming brians@bpa.org.uk

Tash Higman tash@bpa.org.uk

Jason Kelleher jason@bpa.org.uk

Mike Lewis mike@farmationskydiving.com

Ian Marshall marshallcf@aol.com

Gavin McLeod gavin.macleod@gmail.com

Yassi Molazadeh yassi.m@me.com

Ian Rosenvinge ianr@bpa.org.uk

Representatives

Debbie Carter Treasurer

John Smyth MVO Royal Aero Club Delegate

Craig Poxon RAeC Alternate Delegate

John Smyth MVO IPC Delegate

John Hitchen IPC Alternate Delegate

Staff

Tony Butler Chief Operating Officer

Jeff Montgomery Safety and Technical Officer

Trudy Kemp PA to the above officers

Jan Gretton Financial Administrator

Martin Shuttleworth Secretary-General

Karey Goodwin Membership Services

Sue Allen Membership Services

Helen Lucas Administration Secretary

David Lucas Stock Controller

Archivists

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



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

APPS

DOWNLOAD THE SKYDIVE THE MAG APP:

Apple: tinyurl.com/skydivethemagapple Android: tinyurl.com/skydivethemagandroid

BPA members can access either version of the App free of charge for tablets or smartphones; simply give the BPA members-only login details when prompted. The details can be found in the BPA eNewsletter or on the address label that came in the post with this mag!

DOWNLOAD THE SKYDIVE STARTER TABLET APP:

Apple: tinyurl.com/skydivestarterapple Android: tinyurl.com/skydivestarterandroid

Skydive Starter is the BPA's dedicated magazine for new and future skydivers and this free interactive digital edition for both Apple and Android tablets offers more than ever before. If you're a skydiver, this is the perfect answer to all those non-skydiver friends and colleagues – download it today!

CONTACT

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

✉ Editorial enquiries
editor@skydivethemag.com

✉ Club reps and general enquiries
mike.waters@archantdialogue.co.uk

✉ Gear Zone
skydivemacca@mac.com

ADVERTISING CONTRIBUTE

For advertising enquiries, please contact:

Lucy Bendall Advertising Sales Executive

☎ +44 (0) 1603 772246

✉ lucy.bendall@archantdialogue.co.uk

Kay Brown Advertising Production

☎ +44 (0) 1603 772522

✉ kay.brown@archantdialogue.co.uk

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

Deadlines you need to know:

Issue	Copy deadline	To reader
October	August 31	October 12
December	October 21	December 2



We push, you pull.
www.squirrel.ws

EXTREME SPOTTING

Landing off just got serious. Unless you've been living under a rock, you must have seen the footage of Luke Aikins landing safely in a huge net without opening a parachute or using a wingsuit. Third-generation skydiver Luke is a USPA Safety and Training Advisor (similar to a BPA Chief Instructor) with more than 18,000 jumps and 30 reserve rides. Adorned with sponsorship, in a stunt called 'Stride Gum presents Heaven Sent' and broadcast (almost) live on FOX TV, Aikins exited a Caravan at 25,000ft over the southern California desert. He spent the two-minute freefall barrel-rolling from his front to his back in preparation for rolling for real just before hitting the net. He also provoked speculation by performing what looked like practice pulls, leading skydivers

to wonder whether a hidden rig did in fact lie beneath that somewhat baggy jumpsuit...

Regardless, the 42-year-old had to ensure that his aim was perfect, as the net was just 100 feet square – still considerably bigger than the "100 square feet" misreported by some media outlets, but nevertheless not leaving much room for error. He hit off-centre at terminal velocity and the careful engineering of the net decelerated him to a survivable speed. After a few seconds of lying there in disbelief, Aikins was then lowered to the ground where he stood up and hugged his wife and son.

"I pushed myself further physically and mentally than ever before," said Aikins. "But I had to prove that it could be done. Whenever people attempt

to push the limits of what's considered humanly possible, they're invariably described as crazy. But, to me, this jump is simply the next logical step in a lifetime of extreme challenges."

Also an aeroplane and helicopter pilot, Mr Aikins made his first tandem jump when he was 12, following with his first solo leap four years later. He now runs a skydiving school, which was co-founded by his grandfather after returning from World War II.

"Of course, this is a personal goal, but I'm certainly not doing it alone or in a vacuum. Beyond all the marketing hype, this is a once-in-a-lifetime feat that has taken the world's best skydiving experts, scientists and engineers many lifetimes to pull off," he added.



DB COOPER

The FBI have finally closed the case file on DB Cooper, who was last seen in 1971 parachuting out of an aeroplane bound for Mexico. The infamous hijacking saw Cooper initiate one of America's greatest manhunts by disappearing with \$200,000 of cash strapped to his body.

Cooper had paid cash for a one-way ticket from Oregon to Seattle. After takeoff, he handed a flight attendant a note saying he had a bomb in his briefcase and opened it to show a mass of wires and red sticks. When the flight landed in Seattle, he exchanged the flight's 36 passengers for \$200,000 in cash and four parachutes, keeping several crew members on board. The flight took off again after he ordered it to fly to Mexico City.

At an altitude of about 1.9 miles, Cooper made his dramatic exit, disappearing into the night from the back of the jetliner, wearing a suit jacket and with the money strapped to his body. He was never seen again. One clue came in 1980, when a boy found a rotting package of \$5,800 in \$20 bills that matched the serial numbers of the ransom money.

"There are a lot of mysteries out there," said the FBI Special Agent in Charge as he closed the case, "and this is going to be one of those."



FAISPLICS

Please note that FAI Sporting Licences are no longer required to compete at Senior level at BPA Nationals. Competitors will therefore no longer be able to apply for a Sporting Licence at National competitions hosted by BPA-Affiliated Parachute Training Organisations.

SIDEBODY GRIPS

FS competitors, please note that the 'hand-on-hand-on-sidebody' rule has changed. This affects formations where a sidebody grip is taken on a 'shared' grip such as on K, N, O, 19 and 22, and allows a more lenient approach by the judges. In fact, if this rule had been in place at the 2015 BPA Nationals, then *Satori* would have set a new British Record points average! Instead, they scored a bust on round 10 and equalled it. Full details are on the BPA website, or ask any experienced FS competitor or judge.

600 YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS

The BPA *Skydive the Mag* YouTube channel has recently passed its 600th subscriber. Check it out for Safety Zone videos, Expo seminars and more.

NEWBIE APP



Rhythm Skydiving 101 is a new iPhone app specifically designed for new skydivers. It's free and contains useful information such as suggested 2-way and 3-way dives, gear checks and educational videos. The LITE version plays the videos through YouTube, so it takes up less space on your phone but needs an internet connection. Requires iOS 8.0 or later.



PHOTOS: MARK DAVIS, GETTY IMAGES FOR STRIDE GUM



Karl Peart on his first paying tandem, by Rob Lloyd

NEW RATINGS

AFF INSTRUCTOR

Stacey Canning
Lee Crudgington
Chris Davison
David Simpson
Paul Yeoman

TANDEM INSTRUCTOR

Jenny Bouquet
Ben Cannon
Lee Sample
Liam Goddard
Karl Peart
Kye Bromley

Michael Hitcock-Ford
Robert Mataric

ADVANCED PACKER

Thomas Valentine (S)
Michael Morton (S)
Karl Peart (T)



NOMINATION OF ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017

In the autumn, it will be time to think about nominations for BPA Council. 2017 will be the first year of the new composition of Council, with 10 Elected Council Members and two Independent Council Members.

In the event that there are more member nominees than the 10 elected seats available, an election will be held. Any election will be independently administered by electoral services company Mi-Voice and will run from December to January. The dates will be announced if seats are contested. Results will be announced in January before the AGM at EMCC Nottingham on Saturday 28 January. The first Council meeting of the year will be held immediately after the AGM to elect Officers and Committee Chairs. Nominations for Elected Council Members will be through an online nominations site, so look out for a link on the BPA website in October.

The two vacancies for Independent Council Members will be advertised and the selection process will be managed by the new Nominations Committee of Council, with those selected going forward for formal appointment at the AGM.

BPA AGM AND BPA SKYDIVE THE EXPO 2017

BPA Skydive the Expo 2017 will be held on the day of the BPA AGM, Saturday 28 January 2017, at EMCC Nottingham (NG7 2RJ). Enjoy the exhibition, prizes, seminars and surprises, and most of all the camaraderie of skydivers' biggest get-together of the year. The BPA Annual Gala Dinner, entertainment and disco will be on the same day – and well into the night too! More in the October issue, and keep an eye on the Expo website at skydivetheexpo.co.uk.

Our exhibition partners Eventpro UK will once again be organising the exhibition and will be in touch with this year's exhibitors directly. If you are a potential new exhibitor, please contact Marie Reynolds at Eventpro UK on 01509 610452 or marie@eventprouk.com. Sponsorship opportunities are also available, so please enquire.

If you'd like to offer a 50-minute seminar at the Expo or have a topic you'd love to hear a presentation about, please email us on skydive@bpa.org.uk headed 'Expo seminars'. Seminars should be inspirational, educational or celebratory in nature.

AWARDS OPEN FOR NOMINATION

Nominations are open for the following BPA awards:



BPA Star

For great service from a member to A Licence holders and above.

Closing date: Tuesday 1 November
bpa.org.uk/star



BPA Safety Innovation Award for Sport Parachuting

Sponsored by the BPA's insurance partners, Romero Sports and Leisure and Liberty Mutual Insurance, with a £5,000 cash prize.

Closing date: Tuesday 1 November
bpa.org.uk/staysafe/safety-innovation-award



BPA Taz Causer Experienced Skydiver of the Year Award 2016

Nominations from the members are invited for this award 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 in no more than 250 words, to the BPA Office at skydive@bpa.org.uk.

Closing date: Tuesday 15 November



LONG TO RAIN OVER US

As part of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations, I had the good fortune to represent the BPA as part of the Royal Aero Club delegation

WORDS AND PHOTOS: GRAHAM SPICER, BPA ARCHIVIST



This Patron's Lunch in the Mall was essentially a gigantic picnic comprising some 10,000 people who represented many of the organisations of which Her Majesty is patron. Unfortunately, the weather was fickle on the day

and this made al fresco dining a challenging experience, but years of peering in vain at the sky waiting for the rain to stop at the DZ stood me in good stead. The crowd was soaked from the outset despite the issuing of rain

ponchos, but everyone was good humoured and patient. "Well, that's the end of this suit", said someone. It wasn't a propitious day for blazer, tie and shiny shoes but, *by gad sir*, we're British and one can't let standards slip due to a little rain! Absolutely not. But then the sun came out and we were glad we were respectably attired, albeit a little mud-spattered, when HRH Prince Harry decided to stop and talk to our table.

After the formality of Trooping the Colour the previous day, we didn't have the Massed Bands of the Household Division but there were plenty of other bands, both military and civilian, as well as dancers, roller-skaters, a large model of the former Royal Yacht *Britannia* on wheels and, for some reason, a pig riding a tricycle.

Members of the Royal Family took a lot of time to speak to individuals in some depth rather than just shake as many hands as possible, and HRH The Duke of Cambridge received a diplomatically worded invitation to speed up as his grandmother was patiently waiting to board the 'Queenmobile' and have a go. When Her Majesty arrived, attired in a rather striking shade of pink, she appeared to be enjoying herself immensely and the genuine affection displayed by the crowd was really nice to observe.

This was a very historic but quintessentially British day, with queuing, inclement weather, humour, patriotism, unfeasibly large amounts of ice cream consumed in the pouring rain and, dare one say it, a little Blitz spirit mixed in in equal quantities. Just like a rainy day at the Nationals, really...

'By gad sir, we're British and one can't let standards slip due to a little rain!'



Being afraid isn't going to help you.
Vigil would be a better option !



© Willy Boeykens

The Original



Multimode AAD !

www.vigil.aero

COMPETITION

Competition season is well underway, so here are the highlights and what you can still look forward to!

BPA National Championships have already been held in Wingsuiting, Canopy Piloting and Canopy Formations and there have also been three BPA UKSL 4-way meets as well as BPA Grand Prix events in Accuracy, CF, VFS and CP. These have been supported by BPA Coaching Roadshows, which are designed to bring international-level coaching to your local DZ.

STILL TO COME

BPA National Championships:

- August 20-22: 4-way FS and VFS – Hibaldstow
- August 27-29: 8-way FS, Artistics and Speed Skydiving – Hibaldstow
- August 26-29: Classic Accuracy – Swansea
- September 17-18: Speed 8 – Sibson

International competitions:

- August 20-27: CP World Cup – Farnham, Canada
- September 10-21: Mondial 2016 (World Championships in all disciplines except CP and WS) – Chicago, USA
- October 6-9: ESL Finals in 4-way FS – Saarlouis, Germany
- October 11-15: World Cup in Indoor Skydiving – Warsaw, Poland
- November 2-10: Wingsuit Performance World Championships and Acro World Cup – Z-Hills, Florida, USA

LATEST RESULTS

July 22-24: BPA Canopy Piloting Nationals – Dunkeswell

Eight UK competitors were joined by three internationals for the nine rounds of competition; three each in Speed, Distance and Zone Accuracy. The top scorer of the meet was Miles Cottman from Australia, who won five of the nine rounds. This gave him both the Speed gold medal, with a perfect score of 300 points, and the overall gold in the Open event.

Miles' total score of 788.574 was just seven points ahead of second-placed Alexis McNaughton, who won overall silver and UK gold to take home the trophy as BPA National Champion – his first overall win. Well done Alexis! Alexis also won National gold in both Accuracy and Distance. Brian Vacher was the only other competitor to score more than 700 points in the Open category, taking bronze in Open and UK silver, as well as winning National Champion honours in Speed.

As always, Canopy Piloting is an event in which experience and training are crucial. Miles, Alexis and Brian were the only competitors except Chris Lynch (fourth place, UK) to score every round without any penalties.

July 16-17: BPA UKSL 4-way Meet 3 – Hibaldstow

Although down as a two-day event, Hib lived up to their reputation and smashed through it an hour before sunset on the first day. A whopping 32 teams entered; seven in AAA, five in AA and 10 each in A and Rookie. It was also a combined BPA Coaching Roadshow, so Ane Brentford and Maria Russell from NFTO valiantly spent 12 hours on the creeper pad helping teams.

Satori surprised nobody by storming to gold overall, and their average of 20.33

on a slow draw was impressive. This bodes well for a new British Record from them at the Nationals in August and Chicago in September. *Eclipse's* solid 16.33 gave them AAA silver in their seventh year together – one of 4-way's longest-serving teams – and *Antimatter* can be proud of their 13.67 for bronze.

AA saw *Tyranoqus Rex* snatch gold from *RAFSPA Lightning* by a single point in a tight competition. *Kesshin* took the bronze. Meanwhile, things were even tighter in A, where *Team TBC* took gold with 54 points over six rounds, *Dive Hard* 4.0 scored 53 for silver and *Skybolt* took bronze with 52.

Finally, in Rookie, the winners were *Poor Forecast* followed by *RAFSPA Raptor* and then *4loceraptor* keeping with the dinosaur theme on the podium. Worthy of mention are *Pajama Pumas*, who you may remember from the June Mag. They scored their first point in competition on the final round of the Langar UKSL in May, prompting a Mag comment about this being the spirit of UKSL meets. At the second meet in Netheravon in June, they doubled this to two points overall, which was enough for the bronze medal. Meet three at Hibaldstow saw them storm their way to a whopping 26-point total – awesome!

June 18-19: BPA CF Grand Prix – Langar

Sadly, poor weather capped this meet at just one round. Nevertheless, this is technically enough to call a meet, even though tied scores all had to be determined based on fastest times instead. Well done to *CRWsaders*, who won 4-way Rotations, *Wise Prankers*, who won 2-way Senior Sequential, and *Bohemian Wrapsody*, who won 2-way Rookie Sequential. →

1 CP Nationals competitors, by Krista Radzina

2 Alexis McNaughton with his trophy for British National CP Champion, by Krista Radzina

3 Miles Cottman, who came all the way from Australia to take Open gold, by Andy Guest





ONES TO WATCH

Good luck to all our teams representing the BPA on the world stage in Chicago, Farnham, Warsaw and Z-Hills. Your support means a great deal to them. Here are just some of the BPA's best for you to cheer on during the coming months:



Varial – Freestyle and Freestyle

Varial are unusual in that they are competing in two events at the same meet. Steve Howes, Adam Dare and Joel Strickland are current National Champions *Varial Freestyle*, while Adam and Joel also comprise current National Champions *Varial Freestyle*. They will have completed three weeks of Freestyle training in Empuria plus one in Chicago immediately before the World Championships. This amounts to approximately 300 jumps as well as regular training in Hurricane Factory, Tatalandia. Freestyle training has been in addition to this, usually tagged onto the end of Freestyle camps. Steve says: "This is twice as many jumps as we've ever managed in any previous year. We're aiming for a podium finish, and to score in the high eights or low nines in every round. We have some new moves: The Honey Badger and The Deadly Finish are our personal favourites."

Euphoria – Freestyle

Team member Sean Freeman told the Mag: "Dave Pacey, Paul Capsey and I can't wait to get out to Chicago and join the other teams representing GB. We were really pleased to bring back bronze in the World Cup and World Air Games last year – results the team would like to capitalise on. We've focused our training based on feedback from the judges from our last few comps. Round 5 was our weakest scorer, which the team has been working on to improve. The competition is looking strong for this year's meet, so hopefully a stronger Round 5 and the new free routine will see us putting pressure on the top teams. We've done three hours of tunnel and about 90 jumps, including the World Air Games. We've not had the best luck with weather, but we do have another camp planned."

Mikey Lovemore – Speed

Mikey will be joined by fellow competitors Jason Bird, James Parker, Max Hurd, Paul Bantock and Barrie Bremner to form the BPA Speed delegation in Chicago. Currently the second-fastest Speeder in the world, Mikey has his sights on the top spot and a new World Record.

Spike Harper – Wingsuit Performance

Spike is the current British Champion 2016 and Wingsuit PPC World Series Champion 2015, while his wife Jackie won the series in 2014. Both are current World Record holders and will be joined on Team GB for the Performance World Championships by Tony Uragallo, Paul Cain, Jonathon Charles, Steve Murfin, Al Bradie and Tom Owen. *Tutti Frutti* will represent the BPA in the Acro World Cup.



Satori – Open 4-way FS

Multiple British National 4-way Champions *Satori* have managed 350+ jumps and seven hours of tunnel since Nationals 2015. Pete Allum says their hopes and dreams are to achieve a 22-23 average (which would smash the current British Record) and to fight it out with the six or so teams that are below *Airspeed* and *Hayabusa*.

NFTO – Female 4-way FS

British Female 4-way team *NFTO* hope to arrive in Chicago having completed 250 training jumps, although this is very weather dependent. They have also managed approximately 12 hours of tunnel.

4 *Varial Freestyle*, by Adam Dare

5 *Satori*, by Siân Stokes

6 *Ane Brentford of NFTO*, by husband Simon



Anna Hicks says: "We will be chasing the Canadians after the Bodyflight Challenge earlier this year."

Omni – 4-way VFS

"Training: we started with a camp in Dubai getting coaching from Jason Russell (SDC Core) and training at Skydive99 totalling around 100 jumps so far. We have been held back by a couple of minor injuries at the start of the season and the weather this year has been awful! We have done about 12 hours of tunnel and are well recognised at both Bedford and Basingstoke!"

"Hopes and dreams for Chicago: we had a friendly rivalry with *Element VFS* from Belgium at the Indoor World Cup in Prague last October, placing just ahead of them in sixth place. They are hoping to even the score in Chicago! While we know it will be unlikely we make it to the podium, we hope to be able to compete on a level playing field with some of the other teams."

MicroClim8 – 8-way FS

"We have done 180 training jumps this year and eight hours in the tunnel. Our dream goals are a team PB, fourth place and to foster closer relations with Europe, given recent politics."



Revolution Freestyle – Freestyle

Performer: Emma Hart (formerly Pilkington) – 1,100+ jumps, 150+ hours in the tunnel

Videographer: Benjamin Reed Smith – 800+ jumps, 30+ hours in the tunnel

"Team training began just nine weeks after Emma welcomed baby Anna in April this year. We are focusing on enhancing our free routine, plus practising the compulsory rounds. We are really looking forward to the Mondial experience in Chicago and hope to perform to the best of our abilities."

CRWsaders – 2-way CF Sequential

Team member 'Biff' Thornton told the Mag: "Training completed – never enough!"

Hopes and dreams for Chicago? For us, this is a chance to get some of the newer team involved in experiencing a World Meet, make friends and learn as much as we can to bring back, implement and share. 2-way CF sequential is really our second event, as we have historically used 2-way as training jumps for the 4-way. Picking up what we can from those at the top of the game is key. We have an opportunity to learn loads and get inspired to do more, which I'm confident will see us focusing a whole lot more."

Tangled Up In CRW – 2-way CF Sequential

Team member Jason Hobbs told the Mag: "Training completed – about 25 jumps in the UK and a load of cloud watching. We're currently in the Algarve to try to boost that a bit, but have just ended their 8-week streak of perfect weather by turning up!"

"Hopes and dreams for Chicago? It's our first international comp, so we just want to enjoy it, take it all in and meet other CRW jumpers from around the world.

"We initially aimed for about a 10-point average, but will likely have to adjust that as we haven't been able to train as much as we had hoped. Beating the *CRWsaders* would be nice too!" ●

7 Euphoria Freely,
by Paul Capsey

8 Emma Hart
and Benjamin
Reed Smith of
Revolution
Freestyle



Micah Couch

Mario Fattoruso

Bertrand Adrenaline is a new Italian manufacturer of products that revolve around the world of skydiving. We are young and innovative, we pay attention to the needs of all skydivers.

Ph: Roberta Mancino

www.bertrandadrenaline.com



bertrand
adrenaline

ARE

YOU

READY?

Okay, so you've trained for the Nationals and the big day has arrived. Here's how to make sure you're at your best when your turn in the sky comes around

WORDS: DR ANNA HICKS, BRITISH FEMALE 4-WAY TEAM NFTO

The 2016 National Championships are nearly here. Some teams may have been training for the past 12 months, some for the past 12 days, and some will only finalise a team 12 hours before the competition starts. Any of the above is good; to compete

is a superb experience and one of the great joys of our sport.

But, regardless of how much blood, sweat and money you've put into training for a competition and whether you are going for gold or are just aiming for the most 'sociable' team award, I'd wager that you have a little birdie on your shoulder still wanting you to

skydive at your best, win something or beat someone. What follows is a few hints and tips that you can use to help you and your team maximise your performance at the Nationals. As you will probably read this in August, most of your training (if you've managed to train) will be done by now and you'll be in the final run-up to the competition. →



BEFORE YOU COMPETE

Kit

Have you got all your kit and is it ready to compete with? Is your kit in a good state of repair, do your beepy devices have batteries and is your reserve in date? You don't want to rock up at a competition and suddenly realise your reserve is out of date – you'll be hard-pressed to find an Advanced Packer who has the time to do a reserve repack the night before a major competition. If any of your kit has wear and tear that has any chance of causing problems, sort it *now*. You don't want a flappy bootie, dodgy zip or loose visor to (at best) distract you in freefall or (at worst) put you in danger.

Docs

Unless you've already jumped at the competition DZ since April, you will have to do your kit and documentation check when you turn up. Make sure you have all of the docs that you need – logbook, BPA membership card, FAI Licence with the correct qualifications sticker in it, your medical, the lot.

Don't forget the validity of your BPA medical form. If you've hit the big 40 recently or you can't self declare anymore because of a recent change in medical status, you need to get on the phone to your doctor's practice pronto to get an up-to-date medical sorted – no medical means no jumps and some very peeved teammates.

The same applies if you are prescribed any medication for certain conditions like asthma or hayfever because they can contain Prohibited Substances from a sports doping perspective. You can get an exception to use some medications for therapeutic reasons if certified by your GP, but you need to sort this out in advance. For more, see bpa.org.uk/competition/drug-free-sport – it links to the FAI and World Anti-Doping Agency websites as well as the form your GP will need to sign. Otherwise, if you get drugs tested (yes, drugs testing *does* happen in skydiving) you may find yourself failing and getting disqualified – not good, and again leaving you with some extremely hacked off teammates.

Rules

Make sure you have read the rules, which are available on the BPA website. Being aware of the rules in advance means that you are less likely to get a frustrating bust for an illegal move in freefall and you

know more about what to expect from the competition. If you don't understand anything, ask an experienced competitor that you trust or a Judge.

The squad

Consider your squad in advance. If you don't have a team cameraflyer, you can use the pool cameraflyers but having your own camera is usually the better option. If you have pool camera, you can easily end up with a different cameraflyer for each round, meaning that the cameraflyer doesn't get the opportunity to fully learn your exit keys and how you fly as a team. This may limit your point scoring potential as a team if not all of the exit grips are visible on exit. If you can take your own cameraflyer, it can help.

Also, consider individual availability and registering alternates. The British Nationals can actually last up to six days. If the weather is rubbish, jumping can go on until sunset on the Monday of weekend one and sometimes even needs to roll over to the following weekend. If you want to be competitive, you need teammates who have got the Monday off from work/weddings/Tinder dates and can make the backup weekend as well if needed. If not everyone can make the Monday or the following weekend, you can of course still compete, but just be aware that you risk not completing all of your rounds if the weather decides to be truly British. As a result, you can end up dropping down the scoreboard and usually not being able to get a refund for jumps not completed.

Instead, it's worth registering an alternate (you have to register your alternate(s) in advance – you can't do so halfway through the competition) who you can use in the case of injury or illness or if one of your team members is stuck regarding their diary availability. This also includes the camera if you have your own cameraflyer – if they are not fully available, you'll want to register an alternate who is capable of covering.

Some of your teammates may want to compete in a second team in a different category. That's often OK, but be aware that competition organisers need to know in advance – they need to consider if they can grant permission because it plays havoc with their manifest! Also, it means that the individual forfeits the minimum time of 40 minutes on the ground between rounds. This can be rather

stressful for some people, so it's worth having a little chat as a team before anyone commits to a second team to check that everyone is happy with the potential disruption to your own team's preparation between rounds.

Registration

Don't forget to check in the rules when registration closes and abide by the timelines. This is often the afternoon before the competition, so don't get caught in an admin hiccup by being too late to register to compete.

Rest

It's always a fine line before a competition – you want to train, but you also need to be fresh. To be fair, trying to squeeze in a reasonably full day of jumping on the day before competition is reasonable if you're a scratch team and it's your only chance to be in freefall together. But, if you've been training throughout the season, consider if pushing yourselves hard by training the whole day before the competition is actually going to enhance your performance. Is it just going to fatigue you? Always consider the balance of currency vs rest.

Talking of rest, try to look after yourself the week before. We all lead busy lives but, if you want to perform at your best, plan ahead to avoid (where possible) any overtime at work/midweek parties/epic sporting events in the preceding week that are going to leave you jaded and with impaired performance.

Accommodation

Think hard about where you want to sleep. There are some awesome places to stay at competitions and some not so awesome ones. Location essentially depends your ideal balance of budget/desire to have a decent night's sleep/ease of walking back from the bar. If you want to maximise your performance, a good night's sleep is important to a well-functioning brain. If you're camping, a quieter location further away from the bar has its advantages (although, on the flip side, it's usually more difficult to hear tannoy announcement and not so near the ablutions!). Either way, accommodation near your teammates is good for team bonding. Or, if you can't be nearby, at least knowing where your teammates are staying if you need to find them on a five-minute call is a definite must! →

1 *Exiting Block 8*, by Simon Brentford

2 *Anna Hicks and Maria Russell, definitely not enjoying themselves at all*. By Simon Brentford

'If you've been training throughout the season, consider if pushing yourselves hard by training the whole day before the competition is actually going to enhance your performance. Is it just going to fatigue you?'

Nutrition and hydration

It's been said before and I'll say it again: nutrition is vital to maximising our brain and musculoskeletal functioning, and thus is vital when you are competing. Having a balanced diet throughout the competition weekend will stand you in good stead. Eating a big meal before a jump and then being in a food coma on the plane isn't going to help you perform, nor will sugary junk foods raising and then crashing your blood sugar and energy levels. Instead, having smaller instalments of slow-release carbohydrates balanced with protein and fruit and veg will help keep your brain and sugar levels on an even keel.

Hydration is just as important, so water is key. A dehydrated brain functions even less well at altitude and the effects of hypoxia (which do happen, even at 10,500ft in a fast-climbing aircraft) will be amplified. Again, this will affect your brain function and thus your performance. Therefore, keep hydrated and remember that caffeine is a diuretic – too much caffeine will dehydrate you if you don't make up for it with water.

Also, consider your sporting personality and caffeine sensitivity. If you are anything like me (I naturally have the tendency to get excited and be over the line in competition unless I focus on

controlling my brain and emotions), minimise your caffeine intake. Otherwise, you may find yourself at altitude and regretting that cup of coffee 30 minutes before kit-on because the stimulant effect of caffeine plus the competition nerves and adrenaline burst can push you even further over the line!

Nerves

Competition nerves are natural. Even the world champions get them, and they're a totally normal emotional response to doing something that matters to you. It's how you deal with nerves and harness them positively that is important.

COMPETITION TIME

3



3 *B exit*, by
Simon Brentford

4 *Simon Brentford
filming as the
girls transition
to the top of a 22.*
By Mike Burdon

The more you compete (or do practice competitions in training), the more you'll recognise how your body responds to the competition stress and how to best deal with it. Some people need to concentrate on slowing their breathing, some need to retreat to their quiet headspace, some need to run around and burn off excess energy. What is important is recognising it and talking about it as a team so you know what to expect from each other. That way, you can respect each others' preparation habits and maximise your team performance.

Team routine

Routine links to nerves, so agree your jump cycle routine as a team in advance.

When you land, wait for each other and come back in as a team. It makes

you feel better as a team unit, even if the jump was rather sub-optimal. If it was a 'bad' round, don't dwell on it – you can't do anything about it after the event, so move forward. Sure, take any learning points from it ("I was too nervous – I won't have coffee before the next jump" or "I got distracted by the other teams chattering – I'm going to keep my head down more on the plane and ignore them next time") but don't carry any negativity into the next round and don't let your teammates do so either – keep yourselves working as a positive team unit.

When you get back in, lay your kit down (ideally with a packer to conserve energy, depending on your budget) and then prep for the next round together straight away before doing anything else.

Yes, even before loo breaks/eating/packing. Otherwise, you'll get different teammates packing at different speeds/wandering off/chatting up the opposition and then you will all waste time and energy herding people together again. By the time you finish the final round, you'll be synchronised bathroom pit-stop ninjas. Then agree your next meeting time – maybe on a 30-minute call for a walk through, then again on a 15-minute call to kit up and prep.

Oh, and don't forget your cameraflyer when you kit up and head to the plane. It's happened before at Nationals and will happen again. It's kind of funny in training, but potentially disastrous in competition...

Weather

Weather holds are obviously inevitable in skydiving, and Sod's law is that it will happen in competition. If you do go on a hold, it's really important to maintain your focus and your energy as well. Agree as a team how often you want to meet up to re-dirt dive (every 30 minutes, say) and also know where to find people if the weather suddenly perks up. Work as a team and you'll do well.

Finally, enjoy the whole competition experience. It's a sport, and we do sport for enjoyment. If you don't achieve your goals at this competition, use it as motivation for next time. After all, it would be boring if this skydiving lark was easy. ●

Anna is a team member of NFTO, the current British Female 4-way team, and is also a GP with a special interest in aviation medicine. For more on the team, see NFTOskydiving.com.



“To push mind, body, and parachute past their perceived limits. To overcome the impossible and chase perfection. To dream, to achieve, and to inspire.”

That's my Dream of Flight

Curt Bartholomew



Team Alter Ego, 3 time National Champion, 5 time World Champion
Competition Velocity 79, Valkyrie 71, Peregrine 61 - 79



PARACHUTE ENGINEERING SQUADRON

Parachutes aren't just used for fun and frolics at the weekend. Following a visit to RAF Brize Norton by BPA Packers and Riggers, here is an overview of what was presented to them regarding how the UK military maintain the parachutes that are used by UK Airborne Forces

WORDS: CORPORAL KIM PICKERING AND BPA ADVANCED RIGGER RICK BOARDMAN

Parachuting and parachute maintenance has a history stretching back to before the introduction of the aircraft into military use. Today, the majority of

British Forces parachute maintenance is conducted by the Parachute Engineering Squadron (PES) which, since February 2013, is under the command of the Airborne Delivery Wing (ADW) at RAF Brize Norton. Skydivers, please note this is an article

about military things, so prepare for Death By Abbreviation (DBA)!

The ADW's Mission is to "Deliver specialist parachuting support to the Defence Airborne Forces community" with a Vision of "Delivering world-leading, →



operationally focussed parachuting training within the safest possible environment". This fits carefully into the wider RAF Brize Norton Vision to 'Deliver - Together - Safely'.

You will note that the word 'safe' features heavily; that is deliberate and the task of looking after the kit in order to accomplish this falls to PES. They share a large hangar at RAF Brize Norton with No 1 Parachute Training School (PTS), who are also under the command of ADW. PES is not only responsible for the maintenance, packing and distribution of five different types of military ram air parachute assemblies and a range of ancillary equipment, but they also conduct initial training and re-certification of all Survival Equipment Fitters, parachute maintainers and military freefall parachutists who are required to pack their own parachutes. Two corporals from PES are also attached to the *RAF Falcons Display Team* and they

are responsible for the serviceability of the team's equipment as well as playing a vital role at each display as members of the ground support team. PES also support a range of other parachuting-related activities and are routinely deployed to support other users.

Modern UK Military Parachute Maintenance

The introduction of new materials and control systems over the last few decades has significantly improved the safety and capability of modern military parachutes. In addition to the Cypres AAD, which is used on the majority of the UK fleet, GPS guidance is also widely used by the military square jumper of today. The modern square canopy, and the performance that goes with it, provides the military with far better options than the historic days of D-Day and Arnhem – even though that requirement still exists, albeit on a reduced scale.

Making all of this happen for the military jumper is a group of highly skilled engineers from the RAF Survival Equipment Fitter (SE Fitt) trade. Their unique training takes upwards of 10 months at RAF Cosford before they arrive at RAF Brize Norton for specialist courses on the military parachute systems currently in use. Their initial three-week 'Q-RAPS' course begins with lessons familiar to every AFF and RAPS student in the country which introduce the concept of ram air parachutes and how they work. From that starting point, the new SE Fitts move onto the packing of main and reserve parachutes. The main military square is the BT80, effectively a modified tandem rig, and the packing is at times worked by a pair of SE Fitts.

Compared to the voluntary world of packing at a typical club, the engineering processes mandated by the Military Aviation Authority require the RAF, on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (MOD),

1 *Not your average tandem – check out the similarities and differences. The basics of the kit are much the same as in civvy street but for pair of weapons (one each side), two oxygen systems (bottles under right arms feeding the face masks) and a bergen. Credit: Airtec*

2 *The packing hangar is pristine and contains hooks for pro-packing large canopies. Credit: ADW*

3 *'Only' a main canopy? This job demands tools that are normally only used on reserves and, at times, two packers. Credit: ADW*

to treat the equipment almost like an aircraft; the reason for this is clear, if difficult to assimilate at times. When skydivers parachute, they do so out of choice and for fun. Military parachuting (not to be confused with Adventurous Training or Sports Parachuting conducted at Weston-on-the-Green or Nethers, which is also voluntary) is a directed job – effectively an ‘order’ – and because of this the MOD has a very different responsibility to assure the equipment. Tool control and a full audit trail of documentation for every component and parachute are therefore regarded as THE ONLY way to do the job right.

With the reserve parachute providing the only redundancy, standards and practices within PES are, by necessity, of the highest order. Robust processes and a stringent quality regime minimise potential errors, with many additional cross checks to identify problems before the systems are issued. However, the RAF’s engineers are paid employees and, in addition to the detailed training, posters abound warning of fatigue and Air Safety awareness; there is even equipment to combat RSIs from packing. All the flaking is carried out on vertical frames, before transferring to the floor – in other words, a pro-pack. All packing is carried out exactly to manual, with virtually no leeway for personal ‘technique’. If you’re a reserve packer reading this, you won’t be too surprised by all this attention to detail.

However, what may surprise the reader is the fact that the same exacting standard is applied to the main parachute too. Whereas we tend to inspect our mains

on opening (if we’re honest), the RAF way involves an inspection every time and, for some parachutes, involves two SE Fitts going over each canopy, panel by panel, every repack. Accurate and detailed recording of all this activity carried out by PES personnel is always maintained and available for scrutiny. Not only that, but both internal and external quality audits are a regular occurrence throughout the year.

There are no generic packing qualifications like the BPA uses (i.e. Advanced Packing for all square reserves). Each parachute type warrants a specific course and a competency certificate for each qualification. Depending on operational priorities and course timings, to get a ‘newbie’ SE Fitt fully qualified on all of the parachute types at PES can take up to two years.

While this may also seem unusual at first glance to skydivers, it is also important to note that many of the SE Fitts have no intention of ever going near an aircraft or jumping out of it! They are engineers first and foremost and there is no requirement (or resource) for them to parachute on a regular basis. Some do get curious and get into the sport, but they are the exception. The BPA method tends to generate packers and Riggers from the starting point of being a jumper first, with most of our ‘professional’ main packers coming at it from a standpoint of earnings.

To the average skydiver (I know, I know – none of us are merely ‘average’...), this may seem utterly over the top, but the fundamental difference between the military parachuting programmes and →



MILITARY PACKING

what we do as weekend daredevils is, of course, one of motivation. The military are doing their job as ordered by the chain of command, as opposed to you and I who voluntarily leap from a perfectly serviceable aircraft because we like to. The immediate consequence of this increased level of quality assurance is an increase in paperwork compared to your DZ and your personally owned kit.

Current Square Military Parachute Systems

The specialist military parachutes of today are complex aerial systems that require skilful operation and in-depth maintenance assures continued airworthiness. Most systems look like chunky versions of sports gear, while some look exactly like our kit. However, there are a few additional bells and whistles on some of them. A lot of it is camouflage-coloured, which brings the added complication that you might not be able to find it again if you put it down on the DZ...

BT80 Multi Mission System

The BT80 is a gliding parachute designed to enable several military applications. The conventional main canopy is a nine-cell 420 sq ft ram air design that can be packed in different configurations to provide a full automatic deployment via

static line or freefall with a conventional BOC ripcord and catapult pilot chute deployment. It's capable of doing this at heights lower and higher than anything you'll ever experience as a sports jumper, and while carrying loads heavier than your average rig bag!

High altitude parachuting provides a greater utility, but it also introduces additional dangers associated with breathing oxygen. Unfortunately, while this is a fascinating aspect of military jumping, much of the information is sensitive and not suitable for publication. It is enough to say that the development of this technique has introduced greater complexity and innovation to the operation and maintenance of military parachuting – and it is developing all the time.

BT533 Multi Mission System

The BT533 is a tandem rig. In addition to the passenger mode, the military tandem master can also be rigged with different front-mounted loads such as a day sack or the military bundle. This particular beast is not something you'll have ever seen on your DZ. The bundle itself can range in length depending on the cargo and is effectively 'launched' from the tailgate of a C-130 Hercules via rollers on the floor and with some 'encouragement' from the Tandem Instructor. The jumper

can jettison it if needed or land with it attached. If jettisoned, a Cypres AAD is fitted for obvious reasons.

Lightweight Parachute System (LPS)

The LPS is designed primarily for military AFF and currency jumping, and consists of a Silhouette nine-cell (Yep, *that* Silhouette) main and a Super Raven III reserve. The LPS comes in three variants – Student, Continuation and Falcons – and it can't be denied that it bears a striking resemblance to an Atom Legend. A Cypres AAD is fitted as standard.

Fall out

All of the military systems are hugely versatile and remain key to the continued success of UK Airborne Forces. Although no praise can be too high for the men and women whose duties require them to parachute, it is important to remember that their safety depends upon the engineers on the ground who are engaged 24/7 in the skilled (and, at times, arduous) work of maintaining and packing the parachutes. In one form or another, RAF SE Fitts have been involved with the research, design, manufacture, maintenance and training of parachute systems since the formation of UK Airborne Forces. They will continue to be involved too. ●

4 Not your average static line jump either!
Credit: Airtec





100% PURE
WILD FLIGHT
MADE IN
NEW ZEALAND

Icarus
CANOPIES^{NZ}

Daedalus
PROJECT^{NZ}

NZAEROSPORTS.COM

INFO@NZAEROSPORTS.COM

+64 9 360 0045

#PUREWILDFLIGHT

H A L L O W E E N

OCT 28-30
8TH ANNUAL

CARNIVALE

2016

FREE REGISTRATION



\$21 JUMPS
-WITH- ORGANIZERS BOOGIE BEER

SKY DIVE ARIZONA
ELOY

FRIDAY
Carnivale!

PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST
FACE PAINTING & CARNIVAL GAMES

VELCRO WALL AND MORE!
BIGGER RAIDER BOLDER

SATURDAY
Halloween Party!

COSTUME CONTEST

DJ & PHOTOBOOTH

PRIZES FOR BEST MALE/FEMALE, COUPLE & GROUP

CURV

WIN!

A FREE CURV
Container
FOR THE OVERALL
BEST COSTUME

(+ PRIZES 2ND & 3RD PLACE OVERALL)

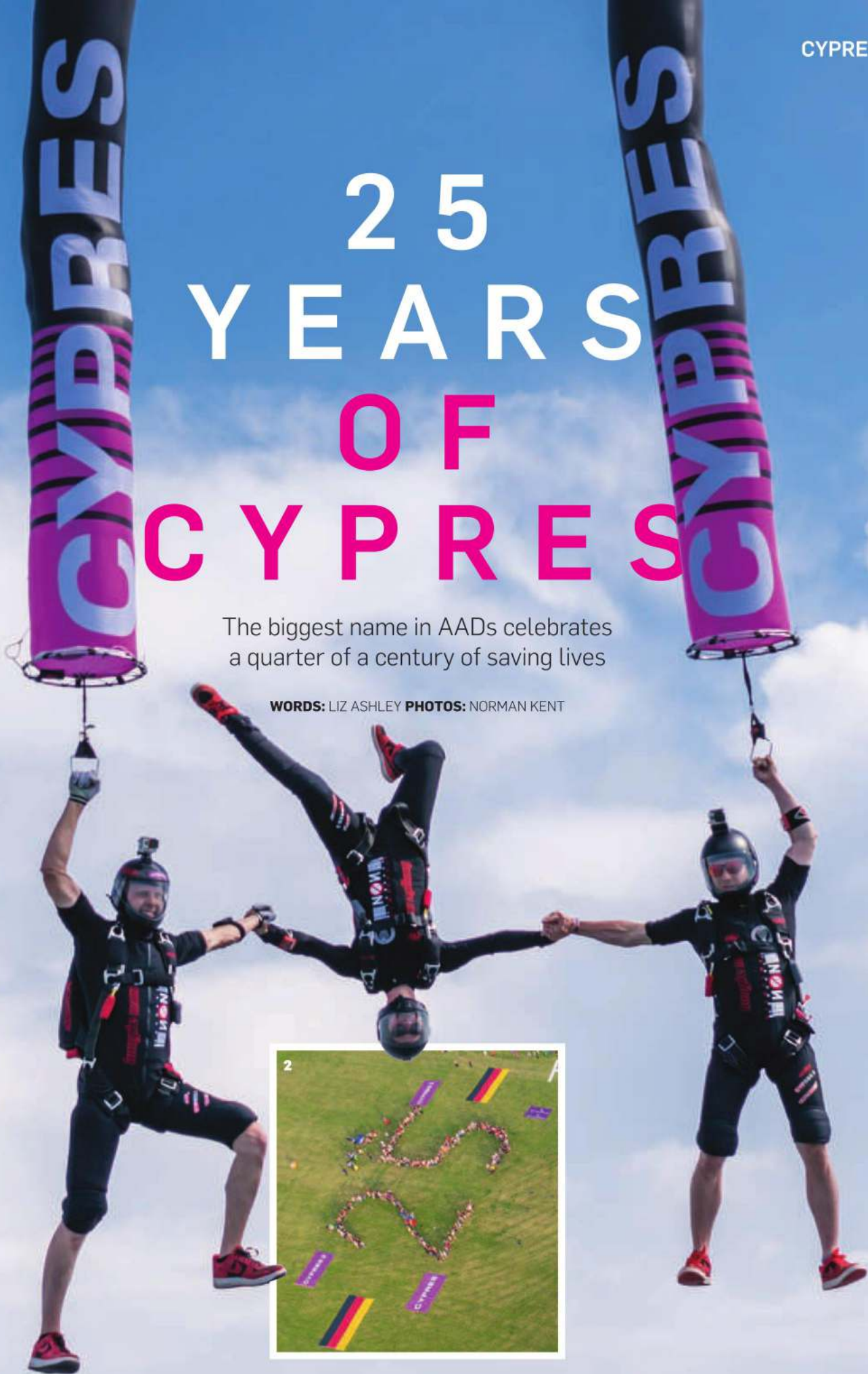
Illustration: Peter Z. Lombardi/Armsy/Outline. PHOTO: STODOLSKY

1

25 YEARS OF CYPRES

The biggest name in AADs celebrates
a quarter of a century of saving lives

WORDS: LIZ ASHLEY **PHOTOS:** NORMAN KENT



Airtec threw a boogie to celebrate 25 years of the CYPRES AAD and, despite a last-minute change of DZ from RAPA to Soest, it was a huge success. Organising and cameraflaying was provided by Airtec-sponsored athletes including Brits Ally Milne, Joel Strickland and Mike McNulty, to name just a few. But what was the state of our sport 25 years ago?

In the late 1980s, Automatic Activation Devices or AADs were unreliable and weren't widely used. Many people were afraid of them and often even refused to jump with anyone who had an AAD installed on their kit, worrying that it might misfire. There was a taboo about jumping with an AAD; the attitude was: "Why do you need that? Can't you open your own parachute?"

Helmut Cloth, Airtec CEO and inventor of the CYPRES, tragically lost his best friend in a skydiving accident in 1989. This inspired him to design a totally reliable AAD that would always fire when the parameters were met and never misfire. The project took all of his time and money, and required new thinking that broke with tradition. AADs back then worked by mechanically pulling the reserve ripcord pin, but Helmut recognised that, if this system was somehow blocked (e.g. by a bent reserve pin), then the skydiver was as good as dead. His new method of cutting the reserve closing loop is now standard on all modern AADs today. He designed a computer unit that was able to account for the tumbling orientation of the skydiver, changes in weather and air



pressure as well as extreme temperatures. CYPRES has since been used at the North Pole and even in the stratosphere on Felix Baumgartner's famous jump.

The original CYPRES unit was released onto the market on January 10 1991 and 83,000 units had been built by 2003, when the CYPRES 2 unit was released. Since then, a further 107,000 units have been built. CYPRES has accompanied approximately 121 million jumps and saved the lives of more than 3,000 parachutists, but it has also changed the culture within skydiving. In 1991, almost nobody jumped with an AAD. In 2016, almost nobody jumps without one.

Helmut remains a humble gentleman and can usually be found at BPA Skydive the Expo every January. You might find him manning his stall during the day and as a guest at the BPA top table for the evening gala dinner. He has been inducted into USPA's Skydiving Hall of Fame and is still inventing, most recently announcing the launch of the new Wingsuit CYPRES. Helmut; thank you and Happy Anniversary. ●

THREE UK CYPRES SAVES

"I was on a Tracing jump following the leader. At 5,000ft, I peeled away from him up to 90° and flew flat and hard on my back to separate. I collided hard with another jumper and that knocked me unconscious. I then fell on my back until my CYPRES fired and my PD113 deployed. I landed under my reserve, unconscious and unable to steer or flare."

"A staff member competing in a 4-way FS event had his cutaway pad kicked off in a rough docking with another team member's foot. It came out completely. On deploying his main parachute, it cutaway immediately. It took him some time to realise what had happened because he thought he had a total malfunction. When he came to cutaway, he started looking for his cutaway pad and reserve handle. He took so long looking for his cutaway pad that he lost track of time and altitude. As he eventually pulled his reserve, his CYPRES had already fired."

"A jumper was knocked out 10 seconds after exit on a tracking dive due to a collision with a jumper in front of him. The CYPRES fired at the correct height and saved his life. The jumper landed on top of a hangar and had nothing more than a sore ankle!"

Read more at www.cypres.cc

- 1 Double tube jump
- 2 The decorated landing area
- 3 Helmut Cloth coming in to land
- 4 Helmut with some grateful friends and customers

CYPRES or Cypres?
CYPRES is an abbreviation of Cybernetic Parachute RElease System



the NEW Wing Suit **CYPRES**

Reliability made in Germany

The AAD for Wing Suit Flyers
Designed to eliminate unnecessary risks.



MONITORS what you do

ADJUSTS its parameters to your needs

COMMUNICATES with you

Stay tuned for Product Availability



Photo: Norman Kent Productions
Wing Suit Flyer: Roberta Mancino

WWW.CYPRES.CC



INFINITY



CUSTOM EMBROIDERY
Your infinity can be as unique as you want it to be!

LIQUIDSKY DESIGN
Contact VSE for details. Let your Matisse run wild!

VELOCITY RISERS
Integrated hard housings for ultra-clean cutaways!

ARTICULATED CHEST RINGS
Ergo comfort and secure fit

BLACK STAINLESS HARDWARE
Stealthy and chic. You can go polished Stainless as well
REGULAR STAINLESS & CADMIUM PLATED TOO!

MESH BACKPAD
Cushy Comfy-ness for the ultimate fit

ARTICULATED HIP RINGS
Moves with your body. Super Secure fit and function
FLOATING LATERALS
The only lateral/cut-in that self-adjusts to fit YOU!

METAL OR PLASTIC HOOK KNIFE
When you need one - you need one!

MESH LEG PADS
Keep your Tushy Cushy - Feels so good!



**STANDARD, X-OUT
OR PARTY STRIPES**

Customize to your liking... maybe add Pin Stripes?

TONS OF COLORS AND PATTERNS

Visit us online to see all of the available fabric colors to find the combination that make your rig yours!

DUAL RISER COVERS

Integrated not added on... a must for your pleasure!
SAFETY

SLEEK AND SNAGLESS

The Infinity is designed to be efficient, comfortable, full-featured and functional... with STYLE!

MAIN & RESERVE FLAPS

Clean & Snag Resistant... stay closed in any freefall orientation. Tried and true design

ONLINE 3D COLORING PROGRAM

No glasses required! Design and change your rig masterpiece to your taste

HACKEY OR FREELY HANDLE

Get a good grip on your deployments

**NEW!
CONTOURED LEG STRAPS**

Feels like a snuggy bunny under canopy
DOUBLE WIDE OR SINGLE WIDE

SEMI-STOWLESS PARTY BAG

Life without stows... faster pack jobs... less mess.

WINGSUIT-ERS

Long Bridles and Dynamic Container Corners
Don't forget the Party Bag

**Learn More On Our Website
OR
From Your Favorite Dealer**

Velocity



DESIGN | Optinion

SET OUT YOUR STALL

Intentional stalls are a vital part of understanding your canopy's slow flight characteristics. They are sometimes avoided or even feared, but can be great fun and increase your canopy handling skills

WORDS: BASED ON THE BPA CANOPY HANDLING MANUAL
PHOTOS: GARY WAINWRIGHT AND PAUL DORWARD

During an ideal landing, the canopy should continue to create lift until after your feet are firmly on the ground and you have transferred your weight from the harness to the ground. It is not necessary to stall the canopy to get a good landing. The point just above where the canopy stalls is our 100% brake setting. This is the setting that, during a flare, will allow the canopy to level off and reach a minimum rate of descent and speed without stalling. This is also the best time to make contact with the ground.

It is vital that you become fully conversant with the slow flight characteristics of the canopy that you are on before even considering downsizing. Being fully comfortable in slow flight is only achievable if you are proficient at stalls and stall recovery.

There are many factors that can influence the point at which a canopy will enter a stall or, indeed, not enter a stall at all. These include, but are not limited to: canopy loading, riser length, location of the steering line guide ring, toggle setting, harness fit and even the length of your arms. As you gain experience, you will find that toggle settings (the place where the steering toggles are attached to the steering lines) become a matter of personal preference.

Most people start off with their toggles set on what are known as factory settings and adjust for personal preference from there. Note that there is a fairly wide difference of opinion on what is the ideal amount of slack to have in your steering lines. Therefore, do not be surprised if your local Rigger or Instructor disagrees with your preference. Always seek the help and guidance of a properly qualified person before making any changes to your equipment set-up.

Many low-experience jumpers have concerns over stalling the canopy, as they believe that it will cause a malfunction. Providing your toggle inputs are smooth and you only hold the stall for just a second or two before smoothly letting the toggles back up to recover, then it is very difficult to self-induce a malfunction. Holding onto the stall for a period of time and making radical toggle movements, such as letting go of one of the toggles during a stall, particularly on a highly loaded elliptical canopy, is another matter.

If you have not yet achieved your CH₂, you will need to complete canopy exercises that include stalling the canopy. However, this should not be the only time you ever try this! If it has been hundreds of jumps since you last did a stall exercise and you are now jumping a different canopy, you should repeat the exercises. Check the Three As (Airspace – including behind you for stalls – Altitude and Area) and use the Accuracy Trick to ensure you will easily make it back to the PLA. Then practise toggle and rear riser stalls as you did during CH₂ exercises – see the BPA CH Manual for a detailed dive plan. Some people may not have the strength to perform rear riser stalls, particularly if they are flying very large, lightly loaded canopies.

It is possible, particularly if you hold onto the stall for too long, that you may have end cell closure after the recovery and, particularly if you aren't smooth on the recovery and/or let one toggle up faster than the other, twists. This isn't a problem if it happens at altitude, but is obviously a different story near to the ground. To this end, in order to give enough time to rectify any problems, make sure you start any stalls exercises no less than 1,000ft above your normal cutaway decision height. ●



KISS VS STEP

Toggle Stall – Pulling down on both toggles will, in turn, pull down the tail of the canopy on both sides. This slows the canopy down, like when you flare for landing. However, holding the toggles down may cause the canopy's airspeed to decrease so much that it loses lift and stalls. Initially, this sees the tail of the canopy start to fold back on itself but, if taken to the extreme, looks like the two ends of the tail 'kissing'! See the sequence of photos showing a toggle stall by Gary Wainwright.

Rear Riser Stall – In contrast to a toggle stall, rear-riser inputs will maintain the same shape of the wing until the angle of attack is reduced to the stall point. When the canopy stalls, rather than a 'kiss' shape as seen on a toggle stall, a 'step' can be seen across the span of the canopy from left to right instead. A stall induced with risers can occur quite quickly, as in the main photo by Paul Dorward.

EXPERT OPINION FROM PERFORMANCE DESIGNS

"Quite a few skydivers, even very knowledgeable and experienced ones, believe that you must be able to stall a canopy with the toggles all the way down in order to land it correctly. This belief does not apply to many canopies. When a canopy actually stalls, its lift decreases dramatically and its rate of descent increases rapidly. A stalled canopy is not really 'flying'. If you want a soft landing, you want your canopy to keep creating lift and maintaining a low rate of descent until your feet are on the ground. If a canopy stalls while landing, it may set you rather abruptly on the ground. If you adjust your steering toggles so that your canopy is easier to stall, it may actually become more difficult to land softly.

"Many canopies may take several seconds to fully re-pressurise after recovering from a full stall. Holding the toggles down at between 1/2 and 3/4 brakes will help the canopy re-pressurise more quickly."

SLOW DOWN LOWDOWN



SKYDIVE CARIBBEAN



www.skycaribbean.com



skydivecaribbean



+584241140224



F4LIFE

Tommy
Special Helmets and Suits

TOP 8-WAY TIPS



8-way is easy – it's just jumping with another 4-way team and you have 50 seconds rather than just 35. How hard can it be? All you have to do is learn one launch and it is done, right?

WORDS: MARTIN SOULSBY, MICROCLIMB
PHOTOS: CHRIS COOK

It's true that there is just one launch, but 8-way is subtly different from 4-way because there is a lot more focus on the angles, set-ups and stops. The margin of error is a lot smaller in 8-way too,

and a few degrees of heading change in the centre can cause the outside to have to move an extra metre. Here are some of our top tips to help you with your 8-way. →



BLOCK 2 (SWISS BEARS)

Singletons, move towards your right on the key and turn staying opposite the gap. The outsides of the 3-ways stay in position for the first 180°, allowing themselves to be rotated, but NOT moving backwards. The aim is to build a tight 6-way compress. Once the centres have crossed, now the jobs change. The centres need to stop any outwards movement by applying pressure towards the centre, waiting for the 3-ways to turn so they can then drive in a straight line to the close. The outsides fly backwards through the 6-way compressed picture and, once crossed, put legs out hard to stop and face off with the other 3-way.

8 TIPS FOR 8-WAY

BLOCK 22 (OLD BONE – COMPRESSED STAIRSTEP DIAMONDS)

Build it flat. On the key from the centres, they pop up and move sideways symmetrically. The 3-way pods sink down and in, but only half a body's width. The pod has opened wide to allow the singleton to keep flying and whose aim is to fly down onto the grips, not fall through the burble. Think butterfly on a petal.



1 Move, STOP, grip

No, really – we mean it. The set-up is the 'foundation' of the formation. When creeping the dive, really focus on what your set-up is on the formation and where your opposite centre is (either OC or IC). Never just look for the grip and never, EVER follow the grip. Look for the right set-up, move, STOP and then the grip will appear. If you do not stop, you will compress the formations and cause them to form in the wrong shape. This slows down the keys and the move to the next point, meaning fewer points. In this case, stop can mean fast.

2 8-way is BIG, but not too big

8-way formations are big and can involve big moves between points – hey, welcome to 8-way and collect those air miles! – but don't

make them too big. Again, work on the creepers to get the right sized set-ups and don't allow formations to stretch. Keep your arms and legs in a comfortable flying position. Remember: move, STOP, grip. Generally, the move in the air will feel half the distance it does on the creeper.

3 The centre is right, even when they are wrong

If you are part of the set-up (normally OC and IC), focus on just your set-up. Once you have that, then pick up grips but keep flying and fighting to keep your set-ups.

4 Have patience, be calm and fight

4-way is intimate; you are generally touching two of the other three team members and in direct eye contact with the fourth.

In 8-way, everything is bigger and further away with loads more information. There is likely to be some traffic or teammates arriving before or after you in the set up. Work it out on the creepers and have patience in the air. Allow others to move first if that is what is needed and, once you have moved, see the set-up and fight to keep it. Don't think that your job is done because you have the grip – get flying to hold the set-up. If you keep a calm mind and really keep your eyes wide to get as much information as possible, you can see everything. If you are always looking through the centre, the chances of levels appearing are greatly reduced.

5 Work to the centre

When turning blocks, there is a lot of "you go, then I go". If you are waiting to do your move or have done your move, have patience and



BLOCK 10 (DONUT-540-DONUT)

Build the donut by looking hard at your clone, setting up the right distance away and picking up the grip out of your peripheral vision. Keep flying to be the right distance from your clone. If there is a break, all eight move into the centre. Turn 450° in place (you will now be facing into the centre as an 8-way star). Finish the last 90° stepping into the centre. Do not chase grips or offer grips – to close the donut, everyone moves into the centre.



KEYING BLOCK 4 (SNOWFLAKE - IN OUT)

The tails of the cats cheat the opposite way to the way the centre is turning. In this photo, the centre is turning right and the cheat is to the left. The key at the top of the block is a double key - you feel the person on your legs, look right to see the person cheated towards you and then look back at your clone to key.

VIDEO: [TINYURL.COM/Z5NZHFJ](https://tinyurl.com/z5nzhfj)

Check out *MicroClim8* in action thanks to Chris Cook and his Theta 360!



keep pressure into the centre. Never allow yourself to have any energy away from the centre.

6 Help the key person

Know who is keying and what they are looking for. For some 8-way formations, it can sometimes seem like a game of Chinese Whispers as the key works its way through a formation. If you are part of the key process, give good eyes to the key person and, even if you are not part of the key, still put lots of eyes into the centre to let the key person know you are ready. That helps you with the next set-up as well. Also, being stopped and the formation being stopped really, really helps with speed of keying.

If you are the key person, treat it as part of the setup and have a process for picking up any grips, looking for the built formation and then keying.

7 Don't be hungry for the grips

Relax. The fun is in building the perfect set-ups and then the grip appears as if by magic. As we have already said, DON'T chase grips - fly to the right set-up and have patience. Oh, and did we mention move, STOP and only then grip?

8 Buy the beers

Never be last to the dirt dive. 8-way can be like herding cats sometimes, so always

try and be in the right place at the right time. Have patience on creepers; if the other end of the formation is trying to work something out, stay quiet and don't start a conversation. We all want to spend the minimum time on the creepers. Remember, 8-way can be twice the fun of 4-way and the rounds are twice as big. Buy the beers and don't forget your camera person. ●

MicroClim8 will be competing at the BPA Nationals at Hibaldstow on August 27-29 and would love to see lots of teams putting these top tips into practice. They will then be representing Team GB at the Skydiving World Championships in Chicago in September.



CROSS- WIND GUST (NOT!)

The BPA Canopy Handling Manual states three landing priorities:

1. Land under a flat and level canopy
2. Into a hazard free area
3. Into wind (this is ideal, but should not be at the expense of the above)

There is a mistake that newbies make which is so common that I have seen it three times in three consecutive weekends of jumping. Each time, it was an A Licence jumper on a 200+ sq ft canopy and, when I spoke to them afterwards, they all thought they'd had a reasonable landing and didn't know what they'd done wrong. It's a mistake that is made despite a nice high turn onto finals; despite an even flare and good body position; despite landing into wind and away from hazards; and yet manages to bust Rule 1 about landing a flat and level canopy. What is the mistake, and have you made it?

How to hit the ground

This photo shows an experienced jumper correctly collapsing his canopy after landing. His feet are in contact with the ground and he has kept one toggle down after the flare while letting the other one back up.

The mistake I keep seeing is when people rush their post-landing sequence to the extent of starting it before they even touch down. All three of those newbies I spoke to recently had flared and then let one toggle up before their feet had actually touched down. At this point, the canopy is still flying and this is effectively a hard toggle turn. Done on a large canopy, the effect is usually that you land before the turn kicks in but you may notice a sideways shunt. This feels like a 'crosswind gust' and is sometimes written off as such, but *there is no such thing*; it's a myth used to excuse poor canopy handling! Done on a small canopy, the same toggle movement will slam you into the deck and could break your legs, or worse.

The reason for the rush to collapse the canopy after landing is often linked to having experienced windy conditions and so it can be a race to get a large canopy under control before it drags you across the landing area. However, this is a reason to jump in winds appropriate to your experience level and canopy size, not to get in the habit of whacking a toggle down so close to the end of the landing.

One easy fix

Most people who are doing this don't know that they're doing it. There are so many people who have cameras these days that it should be reasonably easy to pick someone more experienced on your load who is likely to land before you and could film your landing if you ask nicely. This gives you a bit of extra accuracy practice, and some great feedback to learn from. Win-win!

TOP TIP

Working towards a coach rating? Think about your headwear. For the best communication, your student should ideally be able to see your eyes and mouth clearly. Yes, I know, they can't hear you in freefall, but we communicate so much non-verbally by the looks on our faces. You could go for a full-face with a large clear visor, or an open-face with clear goggles. Tinted visors and goggles may look cool, but they're not great for coaching! Finally, seriously consider mounting a small, low-profile camera with a cutaway. It will improve your debriefs beyond measure if you are able to show the student what they did, rather than just telling them. It has become almost a given these days that coaches will jump camera and that the student can keep the footage – not just to stick on social media, but to learn from.



NEW COACHES

The DZs given are the ones where the coach achieved their rating, but they may be available to coach at other DZs. Congratulations to all.

FS COACH

Stuart Dobson, Weston
Paula Livingstone,
Strathallan

Kevin Johnson, Swansea
Paul Wood, Langar
Marcus Budgett,
Hibaldstow
Andrew Livingstone,
Netheravon
Clinton McKenzie,
Netheravon
Charalambos
Charalambous, Cyprus

FREEFLY COACH

Roy Castleman, Sibson

BASIC FREEFLY COACH

Tom Rees, Tilstock

TRACKING COACH

James Meen, Dunkeswell
James Macdonald, Sibson
Roger Hughes, Netheravon
Andy Clark, RAPA

Wayne Glenn, Langar
Greg Lucas, Dunkeswell
Joe Laming, Headcorn
Ian Hutchinson, Dunkeswell
Hans Donner, Netheravon
Simon Cresdee, Netheravon
Nick Brownhill, Netheravon

BASIC TRACKING COACH

Graham Ablett, Chatteris

WINGSUIT COACH

Shaun Crockford, Hinton

CF COACH

Trevor Evans

CP COACH

Nick Robinson, Langar
Jay Webster, Netheravon
Max Bruffell, Netheravon



FS coach Rich Cotton and student Sophie Harper, by James Stevenson

SKYDIVING CHANGED MY LIFE

WORDS: ALISON ROBERTSON

Eleven of us sit in two conga lines in the small plane and it looks like I'm going to be one of the first to jump. The hatch is about two feet to my right and about a foot open at the bottom to let some air in – not that any of us really notice the lovely breeze. Jay (the cameraman between us and the pilot) calls to Steve at the back to look at him and smile (probably the last thing on his mind!) and we all start singing a rather nervous-sounding version of 'Happy birthday to Steve', who's been given the deluxe camera package by his so-called mates for his big day.

My mind has now gone blank. Although my voice is on autopilot and singing away to Steve, my mind is failing miserably at trying to recall everything our instructor took half an hour carefully explaining in detail to us all about exactly what we should do on the jump. I did recall at the end of the lecture a "Don't worry, if you forget anything your instructor will go through everything with you again on the way up." I'm enjoying the view immensely. I do feel very securely strapped to my experienced Tandem Instructor Jason and, as I have great faith in him, I'm not worried – he will go through it all in a minute. He puts his thumbs up as Steve's song comes to a finale and the door is being opened fully to a great expanse of clear blue sky.

"He's leaving his repetition a tad on the late side. He'll go through it in a minute," I think.

Now, at this point, I am under the impression that Jay is going first because he is in front of us. But Jay is filming Steve at the back, who's going last, so I start to realise three things: my Tandem Instructor has not left any time for a rebrief, I'm going first and, as my knees move from sitting position to kneeling at the door, I'm going NOW! There was nothing but blue ahead. Apparently, your Instructor lifts you by the knees. If he does, I don't feel it. In any case, while kneeling on the edge of the world, I can't feel him behind me. But, to be honest, I'm not thinking about him – my mind is just so amazed at what is about to happen.

It's that first step that gets you

We're now in freefall and it's the best goddamn feeling in the friggin' world. This is the best adrenaline rush ever. The wind is hurtling by us, and I've been told that you can be as vocal and scream as loud as you like and it won't matter because no-one can hear you. I don't notice any noise and I don't scream vocally. Inside, I'm screaming with happiness, taking in everything around me and enjoying every moment.

The parachute opens. Everything slows down and, although I don't recall hearing the wind, I must have done because everything seems to

go quiet. It's as if we've been on fast forward, which I suppose we have! How many times do you do *anything* at 120mph?!

My mind is still in freefall and I'm exhilarated. Jason gives me the thumbs up again and I'm literally speechless, so I nod stupidly. He has two handles which are steering the chute, one in each hand. He asks me if I want to steer for a bit, so he must have decided that I'm not some crazed loon or (he's very trusting) going to accidentally let go of them. On his instructions, I pull down on the right handle and we start veering to the right, spinning now instead of gliding.

Jason asks me if I prefer the gliding or the spinning. My answer is definitely the spinning, but all I want to do at that moment is to take as long as possible to get down. From watching the divers landing before our jump, the spinners seemed to come down quicker so my actual reply (without wanting to take ages to explain my answer) is "Either". I bet Jason thought that he had a right conversationalist on his hands what with my lack of voice earlier and my monosyllabic answers now!

The ground is approaching. I lift my legs, we glide smoothly over

the ground and land with the softest bump on the grass. Even after seeing it before, I can't believe the landing is so smooth! Jason takes the straps off and, after thanking him, we get on the bus to take us back to the airbase. I'm grinning like a loon the whole way. I'm so happy. The experience of freefall in particular is described by those who've done it as being like a drug and it is definitely a high. To me, the likeness to a drug is because you can get addicted from day one and, as soon as you've done it, you will want to do it again and again and again. An experience that is the best natural high that you can possibly imagine, and not bad for you at all? Bring it on baby, I'm hooked!

Back for more

Since doing her first tandem and writing this article, Alison qualified as a licensed skydiver and said "I am loving every minute of the sport!". She attended BPA Skydive The Expo in January, which she says was "inspirational", and is now building up more experience. She says: "I am on my 80th jump now, still loving it and I was in the *Motley Crew 4-way* who came third in the Sibson Scrambles!"





VARIAL

SAVE MONEY · FLY MORE · FLY BETTER

VARIAL FREEFLY, **BRITAIN'S TOP FREEFLY TEAM**,
ORGANISES **FULL-SERVICE** DESTINATION TUNNEL CAMPS
IN SLOVAKIA. YOUR TUNNEL BREAKTHROUGH IS JUST
TWO HOURS AWAY FROM **LUTON AIRPORT**.

FOR RATES, DETAILS, AND RESERVATIONS VISIT
VARIALFREEFLY.COM/TUNNEL-CAMPS

HURRICANE FACTORY: +421 911 533 354 | sportflight.tatralandia@hurricanefactory.com
www.hurricanefactory.com | www.facebook.com/HFtatalandia
Brezovec 1090, Liptovský Mikuláš 031 05, Slovakia



T O R O R R S L N O T ?

There are very few reasons not to jump with a reserve static line attached and especially a modern version like a Skyhook. One good reason is if you are doing a CF jump, where the risk of a wrap means that you might want to be able to cut away and fall free of the mess you leave behind before choosing to open your own reserve. Another reason that is sometimes given is that, if your main canopy is particularly small or high-performance, it might be better to get stable first after cutting away rather than risk deploying your reserve while unstable.

However, this second argument is one that skydivers disagree over and which causes many a debate in the DZ bar. Language such as "you can spend the rest of your life trying to get stable" is emotive but ultimately true.

This photo shows the twists in Redlands Chief Instructor Bruce Johnson's reserve.

He had a spinning malfunction on his Valkyrie 84, which he loads at 2.6. He opened high after filming a Tandem evaluation jump and so was under canopy at 4,500ft. Knowing he had some extra altitude in the bank, he tried his best with the main before giving up and cutting away by 3,000ft. He says the twists came straight out and he is happy with his choice to use a Skyhook, despite the small and highly loaded high-performance main. Better to be high and kicking out twists than going in getting stable...

SAFETY NOTICE

A particularly nasty malfunction has led to a Safety Notice being issued by the BPA Riggers' Subcommittee.

Following a cutaway on a tandem, it was discovered that an individual strand of wire had caught

around the small ring on the right-hand riser. The strand of wire had broken off from a metal cutaway cable, which was not coated. This prevented the rings from operating in the correct manner.

At the point of initiating the cutaway, the main remained attached on the right side while the RSL on

the left riser pulled the reserve pin. The Tandem Instructor ended up upside down and entangled in the reserve, which caught his leg while deploying underneath him. Luckily, the main stayed apart from the reserve and then pinged off at 800ft after the Tandem Instructor was able to free himself from

the entanglement. He had to cut a line on the reserve because it remained entangled on the student's hand, but landed okay.

At the Riggers' Subcommittee meeting of July 28 2016, it was agreed that any metal cables used as cutaway cables in Sport Parachute Equipment must be coated.



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

You're on a call and you're doing flightline checks on two jumpers with these Vectors. Would you spot what was wrong with one of them? Perhaps if they're both side by side and you can compare them, but would you notice the mistake otherwise? This was jumped for several months before being picked up. Know your kit, and know what to look for on other people's...



SAY WHAT?

I was on an aircraft recently, running in at altitude. The red light was on and people were getting ready to jump. As we reached the correct spot and people started to exit, I noticed someone ahead of me in a full-face helmet with a GoPro stuck on the top. There was no flush mount or enclosure; it was just the style that makes you look like a Teletubby.

Always interested in kit, I glanced to see how he'd mounted his camera cutaway, only to find that I couldn't see one. He exited a few seconds later, so I caught up with him later in the packing hangar and said hello. I asked about his cutaway, still thinking it must be a nice neat flush one, but he just didn't have one. He was a

visiting jumper and this was a DZ that requires cutaways on camera helmets. He knew the rule, but didn't think he was breaking it. As he innocently said: "but this isn't a proper camera helmet, it's just a full face with a GoPro".

There are dozens of examples of incidents where people have snagged small-format cameras on all kinds of bits of kit: pilot chutes (their own and other people's), lines and even through reserve handles. You probably couldn't untangle a line from your camera on the ground once it's under tension, let alone trying to do it blind at 2,000ft without breaking your neck. Please, regardless of DZ rules, keep all cameras as cleanly profiled as possible, fit a cutaway to your camera helmet and practise finding it so you can do so quickly under pressure.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE: The red and white Vector is packed correctly. The grey Vector's reserve flaps have been closed in the wrong sequence – you shouldn't be able to see the light grey binding tape on the edge of the yellow and white flap because it should be under the two side flaps.



The broken strand that wrapped around the small ring



Broken strand (top)



Coated cutaway cables



By Dave Hunter

F O G G E D V I S O R

Ranging from annoying to downright dangerous, visor fogging is one reason why the BPA ask that you have a B Licence before jumping a full-face helmet. In fact, the rule dates back to when full-faces reduced your peripheral vision more so than today and often had fixed visors that could not be lifted under canopy. These days, it could be argued that the requirements of a B Licence have little to do with your ability to jump a full face, but the rule remains and is a good incentive not to put off doing the small amount of extra work that will make you a more experienced jumper.

But back to fogging. It is usually caused by breathing; your warm breath is cooled by the colder air in freefall or in the aircraft and the

condensation impairs your vision. Also, a large percentage of your body heat is lost through your head. In very cold temperatures, the condensation can even freeze, leading to the delightful situation of ice on the *INSIDE* of your visor – nice. Alternatively, the same can happen in hot, humid conditions (minus the ice). There is not a lot you can do about it in freefall, meaning you risk a dodgy break-off and deployment until you can get the visor open and check both your canopy and your airspace.

Prevention is better than cure, and several modern helmet manufacturers advertise their visors' anti-fog properties. Some come with a special coating or arrive with wipes. There are various anti-fog products that

can be bought online, but be careful – some manufacturers recommend against these, so you need to check what yours says. Some products work on glass but destroy plastic, so watch out for that as well. Often all that is needed is a simple wash in fresh water to remove the months of built-up snot, sweat and saliva...

Finally, consider how you can minimise the time spent breathing directly onto your visor. Keeping it open in the aircraft will help and this has the added benefit of improving your hearing in case of instructions from the pilot or

jumpmaster. Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth should also direct the warm air away from the visor and out through the mouthpiece.

If all else fails, you could always remove the visor completely and use goggles. You still get the added jaw protection of a full-face (so, yes, you still need a B Licence) but almost eliminate fogging issues and make them much easier to fix. The 300-way World Record in Thailand saw a large number of the participants going for this solution rather than approach such a large formation half-blind.

Built To Last



STELLA™

Introducing STELLA™ the new analog faced altimeter with a digital heart.

STELLA™ was developed to be the new, sturdy, accurate, workhorse altimeter of sport skydiving.

STELLA™ is the result of years of development, customer feedback and LB Altimeters' renowned engineering.

STELLA™ is customizable to your individual style with different sized STELLA™ Elastic Wrist Mounts in a wide variety of colors similar to VISO II+™ or a more familiar hand/fingerloop mount (included).

Learn more about STELLA™ and other LB Altimeter's products on our website.

STELLA™ is now available from your favorite dealer.



Elastic Stella Mount
SIZES: S-M-L-XL-XXL
COLORS: Same as Visoll+™

Velcro Hand Mount
One Size - Comes with STELLA™



www.LBAltimeters.com



By James
'Macca'
Macdonald

Facebook.com/
skydive macca

G3 release

If you've got one of Cookie's awesome G3 helmets and you want to mount a camera to it, you might come a cropper on a UK dropzone without some form of cutaway system. Having the ability to ditch your helmet in the case of something important – like, say, a malfunctioning canopy getting caught on it – is just common sense.

The G3 Cutaway from Overdose Industries is a fantastic retrofit system that not only releases the chin strap, but also the cinch-line that runs around the back of the helmet. In the case of things all

going a bit Pete Tong, pulling on the yellow cable completely opens up the helmet – making it super simple to remove. A video on their website shows a helmet being pulled off with as little as a 2kg weight.

It's easily fitted within 20 minutes and doesn't require any drilling into your precious melon protector. Use your helmet in the tunnel too? No problem; just tuck the cutaway cable into the liner.

It's available direct from their website for the bargain price of £25.

overdoseindustries.com



Boogieman Marvel

Freeflying, like the suits worn to do it, has evolved immeasurably from its inception. Big, baggy suits in a harlequin pattern have developed, along with the flying, to be a lot slicker-looking and the discipline overall has really grown up.

The invention of proper wind tunnels has seen serious freeflying move out of the sky and into the vertical glass-paned worlds that have become synonymous with both proper competition and awe-inspiring flying.

With competition, of course, comes further innovation. The new Marvel

suit from Boogieman is their latest product for sky- and tunnelflying. Make no mistake, this is a serious suit for serious flyers. This is next level.

Super-tight and super-flexible, this suit is essentially sprayed on – meaning you get a completely full range of movement while wearing it. They call it a 'second skin' and it's not hard to see why.

It's suitable for modern dynamic flying, style and coaches who spend many hours in the tunnel. Not only is it easier to move in, but Boogieman say the absence of any loose fabric makes it much more comfortable to wear for extended periods.

The Marvel is available in black, white, red, dark grey or a combination. Boogieman is also offering, for an additional cost, sublimation printing for the suit so you can have any pattern, logo or colour added to any part.

The release date will be some time in August, with the suit priced at just under €600 plus any additional options. The fit is so important that a free re-sizing service within the first month of ownership is included in the price.

boogieman.fr



CYPRES Wingsuit Edition

Do you fly a big wingsuit with a smaller canopy and enjoy the odd high-performance landing? If so, CYPRES have announced a new

product that will likely make its way to the top of your 'want' list. Called the 'Wingsuit CYPRES', it is – as the name suggests – aimed entirely at wingsuit pilots. Why is a dedicated unit needed for wingsuiters? Well, CYPRES

believe that, in a big enough wingsuit, you could be out of control and still have enough surface area to pass through the firing altitude without enough speed for a regular CYPRES to activate.

The obvious answer would be to reduce the speed required for the unit to do its magic. Well, it would be if it wasn't for those pesky jumpers who use a smaller canopy. Reducing the firing speed could well mean that, under canopy, you could possibly trigger the unit with a high-performance turn.

This new unit has two firing speeds; a lower speed for wingsuiting and a higher speed for canopy use. Cleverly, it detects when you have deployed a canopy and changes back to being a regular CYPRES. To let you know things have changed, the unit comes with a separate audible device for your helmet that will give you a melodic sound to indicate the unit has changed modes.

No release date has been announced yet, though it's likely to be this year. Full details will be available through their website – keep an eye out.

cypres.cc

Alti-2 Europe Atlas

Altitude awareness gurus Alti-2 Europe have finally released the widely anticipated follow-up to the legendary N3.

Named the Atlas, this new digital altimeter can be used as a visual or audible. Featuring a ruggedised and machined aluminium case, the Atlas has a waterproof design and, much to the joy of many N3 users, raised

buttons in a recess in the case.

It's fully customisable through Paralog and the Neptune Maintenance Utility, and offers eight selectable alarm groups for freefall or canopy use, user selectable measurement units, 200 detailed profiles and 2,500 summary logs.

One cool feature is that it's fully updatable through the waterproof micro USB port and the guys at Alti-2 Europe say that you'll get any software

updates, with potentially new functionality, free of charge. You can either do it yourself or speak to one of their Altimaster Field Support people.

Available in red, black, blue and silver, you can pick one up now for £354 (RRP) and the best bit is that it's made right here in the good old United Kingdom.

alti-2.eu

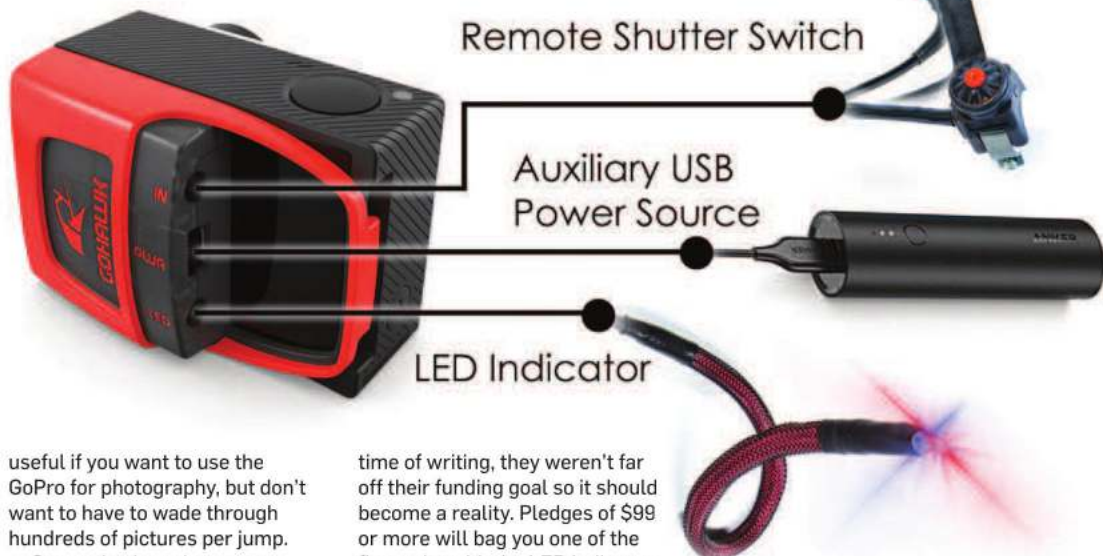


GoHawk expansion pack

GoPros are pretty much standard issue for skydivers. Hit the 200 jump mark and they seem to magically appear on your helmet. Most people just turn them on, hit record and turn them off at the end of the jump. What if you could have a bit more control, though?

Enter the GoHawk; an expansion pack for your GoPro that adds a whole heap of much-needed extra functionality.

By simply plugging the unit into the back of your GoPro, you get three new ports; a visual indicator (much like a cameye) to let you know if the camera is on and recording, a mini USB that can be used with an external battery pack and a remote shutter switch. The latter is particularly



useful if you want to use the GoPro for photography, but don't want to wade through hundreds of pictures per jump.

Currently, the only way to get one is to back the project through Kickstarter but, at the

time of writing, they weren't far off their funding goal so it should become a reality. Pledges of \$99 or more will bag you one of the first units with the LED indicator.

poalabs.com



32 YEARS
doing what we love -
PUTTING CUSTOMERS FIRST!

32 YEARS
OF LEGENDARY SERVICE!

32 YEARS
OF EXPERT ADVICE!

15000 COMBINED SKYDIVES!

and now offering
BEST PRICE!

Talk to Dave Ruffell on: 001-813-788-9831
or Skype at: [sunshine-factory1](https://www.skype.com/name/sunshine-factory1)
or email: joannie@sunshine-factory.com
or dave@sunshine-factory.com

Sunshine Factory
is located at Skydive City, Zhills, Florida -
THE BEST DROP ZONE ON THE PLANET!



Dave Ruffell
National Team - 8 way
World Meet Participant - 8 way
4, 8, 16, Swoop & Accuracy
Competitor
World Team Participant
Chief Instructor, Coach, AFF
Instructor & Tandem Master
Has over 10,000 Jumps
Aerial Stunts for Movies



Infinity Bundle
including Main, Reserve and AAD starting at
\$6213

Icon Bundle
including Main, Reserve and AAD starting at
\$6567

Mirage Bundle
including Main, Reserve and AAD starting at
\$6540

Javelin Odyssey Bundle
including Main, Reserve and AAD starting at
\$6550

Wings Bundle
including Main, Reserve and AAD starting at
\$5920

Vector Bundle
including Main, Reserve and AAD starting at
\$6200

Our motto: **IF WE DON'T TAKE CARE OF OUR CUSTOMERS - SOMEONE ELSE WILL!**

Sunshine Factory, 4303 Skydive Lane, Zephyrhills, FL 33542. Tel: 001-813-788-9831



CLUBZONE

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

BPA Affiliated DZs (PTOs) in the UK

PAGE 57 **1 Black Knights**
Black Knights Parachute Centre
Hillam Lane, Cockerham,
Lancashire LA2 0DY
DZ: 01524 791820
Mob: 07970 764850
bkpcinfo@googlemail.com
bkpc.co.uk
Blackhawk Caravan

PAGE 58 **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

PAGE 58 **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

PAGE 61 **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

PAGE 61 **5 Cornwall**
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

PAGE 62 **6 Dunkeswell**
Skydive.buzz Ltd
Dunkeswell Airfield,
Dunkeswell, Devon EX14 4LG
T: 01404 890222
Mob: 07718 638000
office@skydive99.com
skydive99.com
Three Beech 99s and Caravan

PAGE 62 **7 Headcorn**
Skydive Headcorn
Headcorn Airfield,
Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
T: 01622 891670
jump@headcorn.com
headcorn.com
Cessna Caravan, Islander

PAGE 65 **8 Hibaldstow**
Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield,
Hibaldstow, Brigg, N Lines DN20 9NN
DZ: 01652 648837
T: 01132 505600
info@skydiving.co.uk
skydiving.co.uk
Dornier G92 twin turbine, SMG-92 single turbine, Cessna Caravan

9 Hinton
Hinton Skydiving Centre
Hinton Airfield, Steane, Brackley,
Northants NN13 5NS
T: 01295 812300
info@skydive.co.uk
skydive.co.uk
PAC 750XL

10 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

PAGE 66 **11 Langar**
British Parachute Schools
Langar Airfield, Langar,
Nottingham NG13 9HY
T: 01949 860878
info@skydivelangar.co.uk
skydivelangar.co.uk
Two Cessna Grand Caravans, guest aircraft

PAGE 66 **12 Netheravon**
Army Parachute Association
Airfield Camp, Netheravon,
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
T: 01980 628250
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
netheravon.com
Three Cessna Caravans, guest aircraft

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

PAGE 69 **14 Peterlee**
Peterlee Parachute Club
The Airfield, Shotton
Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
T: 01815 171234
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk
skydiveacademy.org.uk
Cessna 182, Cessna Grand Caravan

PAGE 70 **15 Reading**
London Parachute School
Chiltern Park Aerodrome,
Icknield Road, Ipsden, Oxfordshire
OX10 6AS
T: 0845 130 7194
info@londonparachuteschool.com
londonparachuteschool.com
Islander, Cessna Grand Caravan

16 Salisbury
Go Skydive Ltd
Hangar 3, Old Sarum Airfield,
Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ
T: 01722 323628
info@goskydive.com
goskydive.com
Cessna Caravan

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

18 St George
Skydive St George
Durham Tees Valley Airport,
Darlington DL2 1LU
T: 01325 337929
info@skydivestgeorge.co.uk
skydivestgeorge.co.uk
Airvan

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

PAGE 73 **20 Swansea**
Skydive Swansea
Swansea Airport, Fairwood,
Swansea SA2 7JU
T: 07779 019655
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk
skydiveswansea.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

PAGE 73 **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

PAGE 74 **22 Tilstock**
The Parachute Centre
Tilstock Airfield,
Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA
T: 01948 841111
skydive@theparachutecentre.com
theparachutecentre.com
Airvan

PAGE 57 **23 UK Para Beccles**
UK Parachuting
Beccles Airfield, Eltough,
Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7TE
T: 01502 476131
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
ukparachuting.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

PAGE 70 **24 UK Para Sibson**
UK Parachuting
Sibson Airfield, Wansford,
Peterborough PE8 6NE
T: 01832 280490
skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk
skydivesibson.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

25 Weston
RAF 22 Training Group
Currently military only

PAGE 76 **26 Wild Geese**
Wild Geese Skydive Centre
Movenis Airfield,
116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvagh,
Coleraine, Co Londonderry, N Ireland
BT51 5LQ
T: 028 2955 8609
jump@skydivewildgeese.com
wildgeeseskydive.com
Cessna 206, Cessna Caravan

BPA Overseas Affiliated DZs (PTOs)

Cyprus
Cyprus Parachute Centre
CJSATC, BFPO 58,
Dhekelia Garrison, Cyprus
T: 0035 724 744337
info@skydivencyprus.com.cy
skydivencyprus.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

PAGE 57 **BCPA**
British Collegiate
Parachute Association
Sam Doughty, BCPA Chair
mail@bcpa.org.uk
bcpa.org.uk
A community for university skydivers

PAGE 69 **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

PAGE 73 **SOS**
Skydivers Over Sixty
John Houghtland
13 Bowens Croft,
Cambridge, CB1 8RP
johnhskydive@hotmail.co.uk



GALLERY



1 Freddie Mowforth and Sam Carter doing some CREW, by Freddie Mowforth

2 Milko's group, by James Stevenson

3 Mary, Ming and Karim, by Duncan

4 In the air over Langar, by Mike Coleman

5 Small Pox and dad on the Otter

6 Skydiving fun over Black Knights, by Elliot Mitchell

7 Sarah Simpson, by Sara Orton



**PERFORMANCE
DESIGNS**

VERTICAL

VECTOR3

Cookie

CYPRES



**3 GRAND CARAVANS
AND
D-FOXY IS HERE
ALL WEEK!**



**LIVE MUSIC AND DJ
PIZZA VAN
FANCY DRESS PARTY
MIDWEEK BAR ACTIVITIES**

10-18 SEPTEMBER 2016

BOOGIE 2 IS APPROACHING FAST!

FREE LOAD ORGANISING THROUGHOUT THE BOOGIE

FS: WILL COOKE 10-11 & 17-18

JIM BRADWELL 10-11

PLUS POPS 50WAY RECORD 16-18

WS: JARNO CORDIA - ALL WEEK

JON CHARLES - ALL WEEK

ROGER HUGHES - 16-18

FF: ALLY MILNE

MIKE MCNULTY - ALL WEEK

LORENE LATOUR - 17-18

LIZ BONIFACE - 17-18

ALAN FOULKES-WILLIAMS 15-18

RICH MADLEY 15-18

CF: INVITATIONAL GROUP 10-11

**GEAR RAFFLE IN AID OF LINCS&NOTTS AIR AMBULANCE, PRIZES FROM:
UPT, COOKIE, AIR SUPPLY, TRIBE, BEV SUITS, PERFORMANCE DESIGNS,
WINGS, VERTICAL SUITS, ALTI-2, SWOOPCLUB, AIRTEC, AIRKIX, X-DREAM,
PARAGEAR, GATORZ, ROCK SKYMARKET, AERODYNE, OURAGAN SUITS,
VELOCITY RIGS, SKYDIVE LANGAR, G-SPOT BAR, CHILL CHEATER
AND MORE...**



f /skydivelangar

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

NEWS

BCPA

ALL CHANGE

The BCPA year drew to a finale last week at Nationals 2016 and went out in style at Skydive Hibaldstow, where we jumped every single day for the first time in years! From big-ways with the ever-awesome Stubert load organising (thanks again!) to Freefly groups and wingsuit jumps, the week had something for everyone – including a record BCPA 5-way head up jump.

Alongside all the fun jumping, teams competed in 4-way FS and 2-way FF. With different university clubs joining forces to place first, second and third, that meant points all round! These points went into our competition and achievements leagues, which were won by the University of Southampton and the University of Nottingham respectively. Big congratulations to Eve Mason, who won the individual league and a shiny Solo II courtesy of XDream. Robyn Dean and Hayley Jones jointly won the award for Individual Contribution, while the University of Bristol was awarded Most Improved Club.

The prizes just kept on coming during the raffle and we'd like to say a massive thank you to all our sponsors, including XDream, Parachute Systems, Alti-2 Europe, Airkix, Bodyflight, Flysight and Ouragan, who donated some amazing prizes. The star of the night was a FREE Vortex container! All prizes went out to some very excited students in an awesome array of Disney costumes.

Finally, for the formal stuff, Nationals also welcomes in a new committee (including myself as Events Coordinator) with Sam Doughty as Chair, Vice Chair and Communications taken up by Merlin Webster, Hayley Jones as Club Liaison and Alex Potter filling the role of Foreign Trip Organiser. If you need to get hold of any of us, we can be reached using mail@bcpa.org.uk and welcome any comments or queries.

We would like to thank everyone who put so much effort into making the event a success and we hope to see you at the next event!

Robyn Dean

BECCLES

OVER AND OUT

What up all you Beccles sky flunkies. Welcome to another jam-packed club news from the bestest DZ in the whole of Suffolk. Well, what a time we've been having here over the last few months. There have been thrills, spills and plenty of beer fine bills.

Firstly, I just want to say a big welcome back to Mr Gary Murray after a self-induced hiatus and I know I'm not the only one to have missed your smiley face around the place. Tomo's cash register has missed you too, and poor Tomo is nearly down to his last Ferrari because you haven't been jumping.

On June 18, we welcomed the most amazing canopy pilot and coach Brian Vacher for one of his excellent Flight-101 courses. We had a whole plane load of guys and gals join him for coaching, information and handy tips to improve our clubbies' canopy flight and under canopy safety. From speaking to the club jumpers who were involved, all of them couldn't stop raving about how awesome it was and everything they learnt. If you missed this course, you most definitely should get involved in the next one. A cheers muchly has to go to Brian for coming to Beccles and running the event. With the help of these courses, the Beccles skies always become a little safer.

The packtastic Javi has been running more parachute packing courses over the last few months, thus helping our new club members to progress and learn how we all have managed to do more than one jump in our skydiving careers. Thanks to Javi for all your hard work and make sure to stay away from that naughty KJ – you know he'll only lead you into hanging around lampposts.

“Thank you and blue skies to all my high-flying sky-flirting clubbie funkstarz”

In July, we were joined by the BPA Freefly Roadshow, which meant there were lots of people about doing funny hand-holding exits, wearing expensive sunglasses and generally looking too cool for skool. But hey – we at Beccles accept all types, so we were more than welcoming and it did give us a chance to learn new skills and meet some epic flyers. It was ace to see so much freeflying going on, especially as it's helping to grow our Freefly scene to the next level. Recognitions and obligations have to be sent out to Paul Capsey for coming along and offering his skills and knowledge to make the weekend awesome.

Finally, it's time for me to hang up my writing glasses and let some of the new blood take a stab at sharing all the brilliant news from our little DZ. I've thoroughly enjoying writing for all of you and showing off to the rest of our skydiving community how far we've come and grown over the last few years. Let's hope it carries on and we continue to get bigger and better. So all I can say is: thank you and blue skies to all my high-flying sky-flirting clubbie funkstarz.

Apples Out.

James Page

P.S. Steve Wickham and Gavin Rixon? This is your mention.

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Ian Carbin, Nina Clarkson, Callum Kennedy, Duncan Knight, Jez Knight, Sara Rourke, Nick Williamson, Shi Rui Wong CH2/JM1 Lee Causer, Ben Phelps, Kevin Woods TR1 Jason Elkin, Javi Gomez WS1 Javi Gomez FF1 Jason Elkin JUMP NUMBERS 100 Ben Phelps 200 Freddie Freeman

BLACK KNIGHTS

SHOWING EVERYONE HOW IT'S DONE

BLACK KNIGHTS
Skydiving fun over Black Knights, by Elliot Mitchell

With some sunshine finally here, we have been making the most of it. We have done two demos into Morecambe – one for the carnival and one for Armed Forces Day – and the guys did a great job, so hopefully we will be returning next year. The big-ways run by →



Jack and Trevor have been a great success and have been very well attended too. Thanks to everyone who took part.

The skill levels have also shot through the roof, with some awesome three-point 13-ways. A special thanks to Mark Lord, our homegrown FS Coach, who has come on in leaps and bounds. Mark's organised 3-way events have been a massive hit, well attended, and the vibe around the dropzone has been on a par with Mark's enthusiasm.

Matty Holford has three new AFF Instructors to work with after Dave Simpson, Chris Davison and Paul Yeoman all passed their AFFs in June. Well done guys.

The guys have been busy making some improvements around the dropzone, with a new AFF classroom, improved packing area and new rig racks.

We would like to welcome Dan May, our new full-time pilot, as of July 20. We look forward to a busy season with him at the controls of our Blackhawk taking us to 15,000ft in style.

A big thanks to all the staff for an awesome job keeping all the customers happy, especially Suzie and the team for a truly amazing sweet chilli wrap and keeping us all fed and watered. As you can see from the achievements, we have been busy with lots of activity – so here's to the summer and even more fun times. Roger is planning a big wingsuit event, so please see Facebook for the details.

And finally, big congratulations to Mike and AJ, who got married in June. We wish you all the very best for the future.

Felix

ACHIEVEMENTS CH2/JM1 Tyler Guerin, Mike Richardson, Mike Slupianek WS2 Matt Dowsett FS1 Carl Bell, Tomas Seb Chaander, Mike Slupianek **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Chris Dronsfield, Mike Richardson, Mike Slupianek, Karl Walsh, Andrew Williams 100 Tyler Guerin, Steve Miller 300 Joseph Coyne, Connor Lynch 400 John Welsh 500 Matt Dowsett 900 Carl Marsh 1000 Elliot Mitchell

BRIDLINGTON

ONE MAN, ONE DOG

The last few months have been a mixture of heartache and fun; heartache on the windy days and fun on the jumping days.

We warmly welcome the legendary John Hitchen to the fold and he is presently our Chief Instructor. He can often be seen in his trusty chair with his trusty dog, shouting at us to hurry up and get on a lift. It's great to have him, Annette and (obviously) Cassie with us.

We have taught a few static line courses recently for a mixture of forces and civilian jumpers and it is great to see them returning and progressing with their jumping. There have been lots of tandems recently that have been great fun to be around too (some more than others, according to certain instructors...) and Paul 'Gibbo' Gibbs has been busy recruiting newbies to the sport. Skydive GB is getting busier as the season progresses – the summer seems to be flying by.

The regulars have been busy, with Lorah Battams finally getting her A Licence, Erik Bowie achieving his B Licence and Denis Ivanov his C Licence – nice work. Many people have also been working towards various achievements and it is good to see the progression.

We must say a big thank you to our pilots who have been working hard this summer. We don't always let them know we appreciate them, so this is probably a good opportunity.

The display team completed the dreaded Leeds Rhinos demo recently and this went down a storm with the crowds. It was televised and looked awesome, so let's hope we see many more this season.

Welcome back to jumping to Mick Dawn, who has been away from the sport for about a year after injury. It's fair to say he looked a little perturbed on his first jump. Welcome back also to Sarah Simpson.

Overall, we are having a great time and hope the season continues in this manner.

Sara Orton

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Lorah Battams CH2/JM1 Erik Bowie **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Erik Bowie 200 Denis Ivanov

CARK

KEEP CALM AND TEST A SOFA

August Skyfest is upon us, with the C208 Caravan from Langar making its second appearance for the big-ways on August 8-12. Speds and Anna will be heading up the organising now that Speds is back up and running after his minor op.

We have had an abundance of qualifications over the previous couple of months due to the great weather. Well done to Oscar, Jesse, Kristin, Matt and Dan on your first freefalls, Lewis Brown and Nathan Pope both achieved their CAT8 status and Malky Hunter pipped Gregor Rawson to his CAT8 by a couple of jumps. Brooke will be back with us in August following her departure for the start of her military career, so crossed fingers for the week's weather and that we can get you both qualified.

The light nights have allowed both the staff and our regulars to organise big-way sunset loads orchestrated by the big Brian Foote. His chuck-it-together organisation seems to have sparked with the sausage grabbers and the list gets longer and longer every Saturday evening for the last load. As they all now say: Keep Calm and Ask Brian!

Ned has been on a Caravan sabbatical, while Dez has been dropping helmets only to find it three weeks later with GoPro intact and working! Lucky boy. Dez has now got a new job, which is testing the comfort of new sofas that arrive in our rec room.

Welcome to Ed, our new packer, who has been shadowing Geraldine to get up to speed with the regime in place. Just a quiet Sunday was enough to get Ed up to date and ready for the remaining summer months.

CARK
Freefly crew,
by Duncan Haynes

The camera team have been busy getting some excellent shots not →



ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

WWW.PARAGEAR.COM
3839 OAKTON STREET | SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076 USA | PHONE: 847-679-5905 | FAX: 847-679-8644

GET ONE TODAY!

Para Gear

EQUIPMENT COMPANY



NEW
SCHIER CLAMP
LOW PROFILE & SNOW RESISTANT
#112880

ORDER TODAY!

CATALOGS ARE \$5.00
ON REQUEST OR
WITH YOUR FIRST ORDER.



TONS MORE CHOICES AVAILABLE ONLINE
STYLISH ESSENTIALS

NEW CATALOG AVAILABLE

COOKIE FUEL
CAMERA HEADGEAR
MULTIPLE INTERCHANGEABLE MOUNTING
SUSPENSES FOR CHANGES
ADAPTERS & ACCESSORIES.
#15750

HEADGEAR BAG
FITS FULL OR OPEN-FACE HEADGEAR
CONFORMS WITH SOFT-SATCH-RESISTANT
LINER & ZIPPER CLOSURE.
#112935

VISO II+
FREEFALL COMPUTER
& VISUAL ALIGNER
ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE.
#110905

KROOPS
SMOKE, BRONZE, RED OR BLUE LENS
SAVING GOGGLE
#111721



COOKIE G3
FULL-FACE HEADGEAR
ALL COLORS AVAILABLE IN ALL SIZES.
#15733

BH AERO
FULL-FACE HEADGEAR
FULL FACE & LENS BLEND
POLYCARBONATE THICK LENS, SPEED DESIGN.
#15152

PRECISION 500
SKYDIVER'S LOGBOOK
SAME SIZE AS ORIGINAL, PRECISION
LOG BOOK WITH 500 ENTRY SPACES.
#181775

AKANDO GEAR BAG
PARACHUTE GEAR BAG
LIGHT COMPACT AND HEAVY DUTY.
#112440



EQUIPMENT COMPANY
WE SHIP WORLDWIDE

Para Gear

SERVING THE WORLD
FOR OVER 56 YEARS

Skylark

Canopies

Jumpsuits | Camera Suits

Equipment bags | Packing mats

SWS Containers

Fire Sport and Student for Skydiving

EDGE2 for B.A.S.E.

Blade for Speed Flying



AeroSky



Facebook/AeroSkyUK

E-mail: AeroSkyUK@gmail.com

Mobile: 07894066473



only for the Mag but also for the rec room. Thanks guys – great work, and keep the pics coming. The corporate jumpsuit rollout continues, with the Tandem Instructors looking very swish with their new Jedi suits. Over the next few weeks, the remaining team members will be getting measured up and orders placed.

On September 3-4, we will be running a canopy course with *Alter Ego* – Curt and Jeanie Bartholomew.

Well done to all our achievers.

Stu Morris

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** Dan Caslett, Jesse Coleman, Kristin Luttik, Oscar Postlethwaite, Matt Raine
AFF GRADUATE Connor McColl, Martin McColl **CAT8/CH1** Lewis Brown, Nathan Pope **FS1** Jordan Dickinson, Becky Higham, Sarah Street **TR1** Jordan Dickinson **CH2/JM1** Jordan Dickinson, Becky Higham **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Jordan Dickinson, Becky Higham 200 Mary Carbutt, Gaz Kirby 300 Dez Blyth, Pete Donald 500 Colin Sutcliffe 12,000 Nicky Johnstson **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Jonathan Yeates **FOUR HOURS IN FREEFALL** Dez Blyth **SIX HOURS IN FREEFALL** Colin Sutcliffe

CHATTERIS
Steph's last day,
by Vlad Vatavu



CHATTERIS

UP, UP AND AWAY

Chatteris now has its very own hot air balloon! The balloon is ready to go and had a test flight on July 18, but we are relying on help from the balloon community to fly the balloon lifts for now while pilots are being trained and Simon Chipp is working on getting his licence to dispatch skydivers from the balloon at around 5,000ft. Updates on the balloon can be found on the Chatteris Skydivers Facebook page. For regular jumpers, the balloon tickets will count towards overall jump tickets for the year. Ticket prices for February to December this year are at £20 for 0-50 jumps, £15 for 51-75 jumps and £12 for 76 jumps onwards. This is done on a jump-by-jump basis, so get jumping!

On June 25, we had the Chris Bowley Memorial 3-way Scrambles organised by Graham Ablett. Graham's team *Tri Hard* were the winners, which is the second year Graham's team has won! Some may say there's a pattern emerging here, but I'm not complaining – I was part of that team! We shared our prize of a crate of beer with fun jumpers and staff. *Fall Like A Brick* came second, *EU Joking* came third and *Tricol* came last. In the same month, we had a triple 100th jump where three of our regulars got together on an FS jump to celebrate getting 100 jumps. We also had a little visitor to the dropzone: Agnes 'Smallpox' Poxon, who was born on May 19 at 07:20. Congratulations to Craig Poxon and Erica Stuart!

There will be a big-way camp on August 6-7 aimed at those keen to gain experience jumping safely in larger formations. This is arranged by Chris Shaw, who has been organising big-way events for many years, and Graham Ablett.

Just a reminder about the 4-way Members Challenge Cup taking place in 2017 with £15,000 prize money for the winning team and £5,000 for the runners up. The qualification period runs to December 17 and we need 25 teams to qualify and register to take part. Rules, terms and conditions, dates and more information can be

CORNWALL
Chris, by Ben Wood

found on the website. The club will be operating a pre-booking system for the teams taking part in the 4-way competition to enable them to offer the best service possible for both visiting skydivers and regular fun jumpers. If any sponsors would like to add to the prize fund, please contact 01354 740810 or email martin@skydivechatteris.co.uk.

Sophie Barnwell

ACHIEVEMENTS **FS1** Mike Russell, Ionel Tohanean, Marian Tohanean **FF1** Robin Auld, Jonathan Danks **CP1** Gus Mera **TR1** Andrew Mines, James Moran **JUMP NUMBERS** 100 Bobby Islam, James Moran 200 Avi Gidar, Andrew Mines 400 Alex Keane 1,000 Paul Bateman 2,000 Graham Ablett 14,000 Mike Rust

CORNWALL

ARE YA JUMPING, ARE YA?

That good old Cornish summer has hit with force as holidaymakers basked in the sunshine on Perranporth beach through July while we sat in sea fog up the airfield and watched it roll past the hangar doors. But, as always, the tables soon turned and the magic bubble that forms over the north coast allowed glorious long days of blue skies, light winds and skydiving galore! Both the Coastal and Moorland DZs have been busier than ever, with the AFF guys progressing well through the system and making the move to Perranporth and a big influx of visiting jumpers every weekend.

Lex has hit the target jump numbers and is now a regular at weekends. Both Ben and Twiglet have also hit the mark but, between building boats and smashing TVs, they are yet to soar through the coastal skies (reluctant to buy more beer, perhaps?). The Bodmin boys are pushing on through, with Ben (can't sleep on the job), Sam (get a job), Tom (needs a real job) and Paul (time to quit his job) all finishing the course and moving through consols. That's not forgetting Daz (makes my job harder), who is still spinning on through with fearless determination.

Justin has returned home safely from his 'off the wall' adventures (off a cliff, to be precise) with many a tale to tell and we wish him →



luck on his pending TI course. On the subject of tandems, Monty has worked so hard over the years that he has now racked up 5,000 of them! He was too overwhelmed with pride to comment on his achievement.

With the open week fast approaching, we are hoping for a good spell of weather and full days of jumping with a view to swooping the sands outside the watering hole with a few beach jumps on August 15-19.

We wish Joe all the best as he leaves us for down under, and that's 'down under' as in Australia, not underground! He has been a loyal club member for the past seven years and will be missed by us all. His tuna sarnies are the stuff of legend!

We also say goodbye to Captain Terry Knights MC. At least, his CV said "MC" although I have never *once* heard him do a DJ set. He flies on to bigger and better things as he has landed himself the job he wished for. We have all enjoyed the time we have spent with him and, trust me, that's a lot when we're on a lift with him! "Are ya listening, are ya?" Best of luck in the future! "Did ya hear that, did ya?"

We're lucky enough that our chief pilot has decided to step up, take a full-time role at the club and become a permanent member of staff. He quit his proper job so he could spend his days up the DZ, so he is going to fit right in.

Until the next time, stay safe and enjoy the summer.

UBI

ACHIEVEMENTS CH2/JM1 Chris, Joe, Lex, Simon, Stumpy
JUMP NUMBERS 50 Chris, Joe, Lex, Simon,
 Stumpy 200 Ray

DUNKESWELL

THE PLACE TO JUMP

We had an exciting start to the summer with lots of love in the air. Our demo team, *The Hornets*, did their first jump and surprised our office girl Harriet when we jumped into her wedding! It was such an emotional experience for all of us, especially Harriet, who had no idea what her colleagues have been secretly planning for the past two months. *The Hornets* had 13 jumpers, including our CI, Rigger, manifestor, DZ controller, AFF Instructor, static line instructor, Tandem Instructors, tandem cameraflyers and a couple of our most valuable club members. We wish Harriet lots of love and adventures with new husband Paul.

We are looking forward to many more exciting events in August and we are also celebrating 50 years of parachuting in Dunkeswell – which will be a great party. We will also have the beach party with cheap jump tickets, so check out our Facebook page or website for details on how to register for this amazing deal.

We will also attempt to break the Guinness World record for the Most Tandem Skydives in 24 hours. We were planning to do this in June, but the weather didn't play ball. If you would like to be here on this exciting day and feel the buzz, please get in touch. Let us know if you can volunteer for the day (in return for some jump tickets, of course).

“ Charles, you are a gentleman and a scholar and it was a pleasure to dispatch you. We wish you a long and happy life, and thanks for all the beer! ”

Check out our achievements list below to see just how busy the start of the summer has been. Amazing progress everyone! See you in Dunkeswell!

Miko

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** Abhinav Aggarwal, Bethany Denner, Sebastian Dul, Max Fuller, Sebastian Hill, Karolina Zatorska **CAT8/CH1** Amro Amer, Alex Dale, Bethany Denner, Craig Langley-Smith, Nic Nash, Jack Phillips, Edward Rose, Mat Wilson, Jake Worburton, James Wright **CH2/JM1** Jon Hancox, Jamie Hardy, Elana Kaushal, Abdus Samad Rashid, Danny Sharp, Joseph Shields, Alex Potter **FS1** Rikkie Atfield, Chris Copeland, Steve Hamilton, Jon Hancox, Elana Kaushal, William Perkins, Jiri Pluhar, James Romer-Ormiston **FF1** Leighton Cross, Oliver Dixon, James Scott, Aija Stikane **TR1** Phil Cane, Leighton Cross, Oli Dixon, Andrew Douglas, Ray Ducros, Chris Griffin, Neil Hooper Mark Kurylo, Rosie Manning, Oli Melzack, Ray Norton, Sel Pasos, Aija Stikane, Richie Taylor **TR2** Rosie Manning, James Scott **TR3** Rosie Manning **JUMP NUMBERS** 100 Leighton Cross 200 Ben Debbage, Anthony Eve, Ben Holton, Oli Melzack, Cara Pritchard, Merlin Webster 300 Peter Barnes, Simon Hawkins, Aija Stikane 400 Simon Dove, Joseph Graves (JJ), Joseph Mann 700 Chris Copeland 900 Bill Booth, Mike Williams 1,000 Gerrit Vanzyl 4,000 George Clack 6,000 Andy Halloway

HEADCORN

BLUE SKIES, CHARLES

An era came to a close this month when our oldest member, Charles Henley, decided to hang up his boots. At 91, Charles was still making static line jumps and his last one was in April this year. In total, he made 737 jumps and the first one was back in 1964. He was a regular at the club in the 80s and 90s, and owned his own static line rig. We would occasionally clear him for freefall, but he never progressed beyond 10-second delays. After a 12-year layoff to nurse his wife through her last years, he returned to the sport in 2014. He was put through his paces as we had doubts about an 89-year-old making solo jumps, but he persevered and convinced us that he was safe to jump again. He made another 33 static line jumps as an 89/90/91-year-old and finally came to us to announce his retirement recently on grounds that he did not feel he could stay current enough. Charles, you are a gentleman and a scholar and it was a pleasure to dispatch you. We wish you a long and happy life, and thanks for all the beer!

In other news, the sun has finally come out to play and we are definitely doing a lot of that. The swimming pool is officially open and Jane has been seen running DZ control from the pool. The rise in temperature has led to a surge of shorts and T-shirt jumps (or, in some cases, just the shorts), and what better way is there of getting cool?

Speaking of water, we are looking forward to our annual water jump into Bewl Water in September. Watch this space.

There have been several successful Mr Bill jumps, mainly involving Tony Lloyd, who has perfected the exit technique using a static line rig.

The weekday activity has increased and we have had many days where we have not had to rely on the tandems to get the lifts in the air – always a bonus. →

DUNKESWELL
 Harriet's wedding with The Hornets, by Krista Radzina





Earn SuperStars Rewards
on ALL ChutingStar Purchases
for future discounts!

CHUTINGSTAR.COM

SAVE ON GEAR PACKAGES!

ChutingStar has combined the most popular canopies, containers & AADs for a package price not far above used gear offerings. The base price includes the custom container built to your colors and measurements along with a:



Icon neXgen



\$6845

Icon Sport



\$6400

Infinity



\$6699

Javelin Legacy



\$6745

Javelin Odyssey



\$6945

Mirage G4



\$6645

Peregrine Glide



\$6575

Peregrine Triton



\$6187

Vector V3



\$6345

Voodoo Curv 2.0



\$7149

Vortex



\$6430

Wings



\$6000

CYPRES 2



Pricing for AAD's with Gear Package:

Price of CYPRES2 or Vigil 2+: **included** in Base Package Pricing. With m2: **-\$221**
When purchased separately: CYPRES2: **\$1220** • Vigil 2+: **\$1220** • m2: **\$999**



FREE
ChutingStar
Gear Bag
with each
complete rig
purchase!

See Gear Packages
listing on
ChutingStar.com
for additional
pricing on
canopy/AAD
substitutions,
container
options, rigging
and shipping.



CHUTINGSTAR
SKYDIVE • SKATE

chutingstar.com

facebook.com/chutingstar

twitter.com/chutingstar

instagram.com/chutingstar

Online Ordering 24/7

World-Wide Shipping at
ChutingStar.com

Walk-In Shop in
Marietta GA

1-770-445-4000

CHUTINGSTAR

CHUTINGSTAR SKYDIVING SUPERSTORE

CHUTINGSTAR SKYDIVING SUPERSTORE

CHUTINGSTAR

BPA NATIONALS

FLY YOUR BEST

AUGUST

20-22 & 27-29



COME ENJOY SUMMER AT HIBALDSTOW

THE 15K EXPERIENCE

Freefly With Matty Mitchell 3-4 September

Foundry Coaching + Walk Up LO Weekend 17-18 September

Freefly With Paul Cooper 17-18 September

Foundry Intermediates+ 24-25 September

Freefly With Liz Boniface 24-25 September

www.skydiving.co.uk

info@skydiving.co.uk | +44 (0) 113 250 5600 | [f skydive hibaldstow](https://www.facebook.com/skydivehibaldstow)


SKYDIVE
HIBALDSTOW

 ALTI-2
EUROPE

 GYMRES
Heliability inside in Germany

 Zonty
Special Helmet and Suits

 Cookie

 skydive
mag.com

 aerobicyclics

 SKYDIVE
SPAIN

 SKYDIVE
ALGARVE

 boogie man

 INDOOR
SKYDIVING



HEADCORN
Chris Oates,
Chris Wise and
Tom Brown, by
Tony Lloyd

Phil Keeble, by
Jane Hopkins



The FS coaches are putting our newly qualified A Licences through their paces, resulting in lots of FS1 stickers. Joe Laming is the king of FF and Tracking coaching, and has been kept very busy.

Long may this hot weather last!

Jane Hopkins

ACHIEVEMENTS **CAT8/CH1** Chris Beatty, Alastair Clinch, Daniel Giraldo, Grant Henderson, Connor Higgins, Aaron Moran, Josh Wilson **CH2/JM1** Dennis Bridges, Luke Clayden, Alesha Drury, Reece Horton, Rob Spickett, Piotr Warso **FS1** Dennis Bridges, Isaac Brown, Andrew Evans, Dan Haddock, Vitaliy Zakrevsky **FF1** Joe Horton, Anthony Lloyd, Chris Oates, Martin Viligardi **TR1** Kamal Akbar, Jason Burgoyne, Drew Moon, Dom Smith **TR2** Kamal Akbar **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Jack Adams, Alex Barata, Sam Warburton **200** Simon Crisp, Jason Langridge, Tony Lloyd, Dom Smith, Martin Viligardi, Eddie Wearing **500** Mark Bayley, Simon Soper **700** Laura Freeman **1,000** James Freeman, Alex Leslie, Drew Moon, Eric Shapland **1,500** Si Beech **8,000** Peter Sizer **30 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Paul 'Diggers' Digby

HIBALDSTOW

**OUR NEW MOTTO:
WHY THE HELL NOT?**

Peak season started with team training and John Andrews was busy doing 4-way, not realising that his ex-teammate had set him up with a surprise party for his 50th birthday. It was a great night for

the DZ, with jumpers and family down to celebrate his birthday and his 500th jump at the same time! Good work, old boy!

Stubert's Intermediates group was so large this time around that a little help from Cobi Cockburn was required to keep two groups busy at a time. This was a great weekend of 12-14-ways, ending in a joined group to conclude the weekend with an awesome three-point two-planer. That's an all-too-common sight now at Hib, where we're taking any opportunity to fly big-way regardless of whether it's belly or Freely!

Coop's weekends keep drawing in the big guns for FF with his mix of smaller group LO and formation loads too. The weather was not so kind this time around, but Coops still managed to throw out some big-ways for his larger weekends and it was a great warm-up for those looking to do the Head Down Record with us here in September.

The BCPA rocked the DZ once again with their infamous national event, and they hammered the skies and the bar equally. The quality of skydives this time was exceptional, but not as exceptional as the costumes at the Disney-themed final party. Jäger trains, shots, shooters and nudity – on both sides of the bar – were the name of the night. It wouldn't be the Nationals without them!

The first UKSL we've held for some time was a real humdinger, with 32 teams competing for the top slots and the coveted BPA medals. A slow draw came out and, with it, a good meet. The rookies went down to the last jump of the day before resolving. A had a single point between the top three teams and AA was won by one point. *Satori* pulled out a 20 average over the scant six rounds to reign supreme again. Of course, completing the meet in a day meant that we could all play on Sunday and, yes, we did play. With three groups ranging from 28-way to 8-way, the sky was buzzing.

Milko's 28-way group soon became Milko's 36-way, and why the hell not when we have a spare Caravan lying around? Hot skydives and hot weather made the perfect combination for a great weekend. Sam Bemment's late addition to the DZ added to the mix, with some beginners' formation loads backing up the three planes.

Last but not least, congratulations to Karl Peart for attaining his Advanced Packing rating and Marcus Budget for attaining his Basic FF Coach's rating. Keep it up!

The season is in full flow and the British Nationals is just around the corner. Good luck to all our teams at the grand finale of the year.

Let's keep it large! Or fast. Or both....

Stubert Ferglstein

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** Charlie Emkes **CAT8/CH1** Oscar Choudry, Jacob Verlander **CH2/JM1** Sonny Burnside **FS1** Hayley Jones, Eric Valantanavics, Dan Watson **FF2** Hannah Broughton **WS1** Kane Jackson **IC1** Paul Hollow **TR1** Andy Eady **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Sonny Burnside **100** Sophie Harper, Zoe Palmer **200** Andy Eady **300** Luke Kurnow, Martin Swindle **500** John Andrews **1,800** Mandy Pointer **3,000** Rai Ahmed **5,000** Ash Kemp →

HIBALDSTOW
By James
Stevenson



LANGAR

YOU WANT IT, WE'VE GOT IT

Our very own Alistair Hodgson attended the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations on the Mall in London. For those of you who don't know him, Al is an awesome freeflyer and world-class Freestyle medal winner (as cameraflyer to his wife Pixie) – and a double amputee. Al is a member of the ABF Soldiers Charity which gave him a reason to live again after the loss of his legs and, for that, he expressed his thanks to both the ABF and Her Majesty (who is the charity's patron).

For the young up-and-coming skydiver, Tom Shorten, Simon Dickinson and Dylan Morris-Roberts have run formal B Licence coaching days for more than 30 people so far, covering the various briefs required and the jumping. You too can join in with the next one – just keep an eye open for dates at facebook.com/skydivelangar.

Nick Robinson is running his Swoopclub canopy courses regularly, and you can get yourself involved via facebook.com/swoopclubcanopyschool.

Jim Bradwell is now doing walk-up FS organising for us so, if you need to hone your formation skills, come and join him at weekends. It's a good starting point and especially so if you want to work up to bigger stuff. Talking of which, Will Cooke's multi-aircraft FS weekend in June went well with several successful jumps.

Paul Cooper organised multi-aircraft head down dives in July. The group had a very successful weekend, with lots of new talent practising their skills for the upcoming UK Head Down Record in September. Special thanks to Weed Stoodley for taking all the admin off the jumpers' hands!

Kate Lindsley and Dave Rodgers of *Team 4mula* have been doing 4-way coaching for us, with great success. Good to have them on board! They are here for various weekends throughout the year, so take advantage.

The older generation – Skydivers Over Sixty – have been pursuing their record-breaking goals at Langar of late and they have recently clocked up sequential records of a five-point 6-way in June, followed by a two-point 8-way in July. Their 2014 freefall formation record is still standing at 13.

The younger oldsters – Parachutists Over Phorty – hold a current formation record of 36. They're planning to better that during Langar Boogie 2 in September, with a goal of 50 jumpers.

“ Jim Bradwell is now doing walk-up FS organising for us so, if you need to hone your formation skills, come and join him at weekends. It's a good starting point and especially so if you want to work up to bigger stuff. ”

NETHERAVON
The APA's planes

Just prior to Boogie 2, Curt and Jeannie Bartholomew of *Alter Ego* will be at Langar running their canopy courses. Curt is a multiple-times world champion, so don't miss this opportunity!

Boogie 2 (September 10-18) should be a good one. We've got all sorts of stuff lined up for all sorts of skydivers, plus parties, live bands and even a raffle for all sorts of skydiving goodies from a huge range of manufacturers. There will be a range of vendor stands too, so you can get your hands on the latest gear.

Details of everything at facebook.com/skydivelangar as usual!

Tony Danbury

ACHIEVEMENTS **AFF GRADUATE** Gavin Parry **CAT8/CH1** Michael Barker, Olga Lupova, Gavin Parry, Collette Siu **CH2/JM1** David Harrison, Michael Harrison, Ania Kulak **CH2** Gavin Parry **FS1** Phil Bodycote, David Harrison, Sonia Holland, Dan Jensen, Olga Lupova, Tim Reddish **FF1** Ely Kirby, Vince Lam **WS1** Ryan Garner, Richard Guest **JUMP NUMBERS** **100** David Harrison, Jason Mountford **200** Matt Cumming, Joe Frankel **400** Charlotte Harris, Alex Whitehead **600** Dylan Morris-Roberts, Wes Thompson **700** Rich Beazley **800** Tom Shorten **1,000** Lorene Latour, Roy Wimmer **3,000** Nick Robinson **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Michael Harrison **12 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Tom Shorten

NETHERAVON

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING IS WONDERFUL

We're only halfway through the summer and look what we've done already. In just over two months, we've had a UKSL competition, visiting Freefly gurus Cristian Vasari and Gigliola Borgnis, four FS Load Organising weekends, FF coaching with Matty Mitchell and Alex Murphy, two Tracking and FF progression weekends and hosted the biggest wingsuit competition in the world! And there's plenty more to come, with the Armed Forces Parachute Championships in August, the famous 8-way Speed competition, more FF progression, more Load Organising, more wingsuit courses and more top international coaches. What more could you want?

275 NEW SKYDIVERS AT NETHERS!

Yes, we've trained an amazing 275 new parachutists in the first half of this season! With plenty of progression events planned for the rest of the year, we know this is going to be a great year for new Netheravon jumpers. Check out the achievers list to see some great results.

MICHAEL BAYADA

Congratulations to student Michael Bayada on a stellar journey →





Register online to

win a free Vector!



CZECH EDITION

VECTOR FESTIVAL

21 - 26 JUNE 2016

30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

SKYDIVE PINK KLATOVY

CZECH REPUBLIC

organizers

freestyle

formation skydiving

wing suit

IPPO
PHILIPPE VALLAUD
FLY4LIFE
JOY RIDERS
TORA TORA
FABIAN RAIDEL
WILL PENNY
FLY WARRIORS

PETE ALLUM
IVAN QUADRIO

ZUN
and more tba...



aircraft

4x SKYVANS
BALLOONS

and more tba...

massive vendor village demo equipment live entertainment one on one coaching

WWW.VECTORFESTIVAL.COM

GET YOUR SUMMER FIX OF **HIGH ALTITUDE**

AND



OCEAN VIEWS AT ONE OF OUR DROPZONES




SKYDIVE
SPAIN

www.skydivespain.com
Seville | info@skydivespain.com
(+34) 955 766 056


SKYDIVE
ALGARVE

www.skydivealgarve.com
Alvor | info@skydivealgarve.com
(+351) 289 496 581


SKYDIVE
HIBALDSTOW

Home of the Nationals
www.skydiving.co.uk | info@skydiving.co.uk

4-Way Formation Skydiving and VFS: 20th-22nd August (27th-29th August)
8-Way Formation Skydiving, Artistics (FF/Freestyle) and Speed 27th-29th August (3rd-5th September)
OPEN TO ALL NATIONALITIES!

through his AFF course. Being the Cl's son meant that the pressure was really on, but Michael made it look easy. Now the question is: will Mark be able to keep up with junior? Our Chief Instructor is already being referred to as 'Michael's Dad'. Is this a sign of things to come?

WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL GUESTS

The UK Wingsuit Nationals was the biggest in the world for the fifth year running. With 66 competitors from the UK and 15 from other nations, this year's event was another huge success. As well as returning jumpers, we saw many new faces from around the world and look forward to seeing them again in years to come.

WE LOVE OUR BLACKHAWKS!

After two months of having both Blackhawk Caravans in operation, jumpers are enjoying those fast climbs and are getting more jumps – result! But were you aware of the hidden benefits? Shorter take-offs, quieter engines, horizontal exhausts that don't burn the grass and a manufacturer's warranty; everything to make our fleet safer, more environmentally friendly and more reliable than ever.

NETHERAVON WINE TASTING RETURNS TO SAY: "GET WELL DEL!"

It was great to see Vicki Tomlinson back at Netheravon and running one of her international wine tasting events with a selection of wines from her extensive travels. Everybody had a great evening and, at the same time, raised £250 to help skydiver and Army veteran Del Derrick on the road to recovery after a cycling accident earlier this year.

AND FINALLY...

Congratulations to Netheravon jumper and *Red Devil* Alexis McNaughton who is the 2016 National Champion for Canopy Piloting after an awesome performance at the Nationals in July. Fantastic result!

Elana Cain

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Michael Bayada FS1 Charles Benn, Paul Hook, James MacFarlane, Patrick Pringle FF1 Sue Nuttall WS1 Tom Ellis, Jules Ratcliff, Alabama Shanker, Harry Shanker, Etain Veronique CP2 Georgie Roles CF1 Chris Fawcett, Colin Jenkins TR1 Colin Jenkins, James MacFarlane JUMP NUMBERS 50 Charles Benn, Owen Evans, Paul Hook, Matt Kettle 100 Simon Bradbury 200 Dan Anders-Brown, Daryl Bradley, Tom Ellis, Alabama Shanker, Andy Swaffield 500 Colin Jenkins, Johnny Mursa 600 Sue Nuttall 1,000 Harry Shanker ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL Spencer Bailey SIX HOURS IN FREEFALL Colin Jenkins

PETERLEE

RECORD TIME

The season is in full swing right now and we've been enjoying lots of good weather days. Our jump numbers are certainly reflecting that and, at the time of writing, we have done 1.5 times the regular experienced jumps and 1.75 times the number of tandem students jumped at the same point last year. Good going, everyone!

During our June progression week, we welcomed Jerry Greeves and his Jump School and, while the weather sadly wasn't too kind to us, it didn't dampen spirits too much. We had some good days of jumping and the BBC paid us a visit to film a piece about the guys from BLESMA. Thanks to Brian Cumming, who came along on the second weekend of the progression week for a very well-attended big-way coaching event.

The July progression week brought us great weather and loads of jumping, including an Accuracy competition arranged by Ian 'Geordie' Batey along with some judging assistance from Janet Willcox. Kieran Hogan was declared the winner. The week was rounded off with a visit from Paul Cooper, Weed Stoodley and Andy Godwin, who brought the BPA's VFS Roadshow to Peterlee. Great coaching from some world-class skydivers is always a pleasure and privilege to receive, so thanks guys.

A special mention this issue goes to two friends, Gary and Roy, who started their skydiving journey on a static line course on June 16 2015. They were both initially told that they were too fat to jump (their words!) so, between them, they lost six stone and Gary gave up the cigs. They both continued with their dream to become skydivers; Roy carried on with static line and Gary chose to convert to AFF.

On July 23 2016, they both got their A Licences. They started the same day and qualified the same day – brilliant! It just goes to show that, no matter what may stand in your way, you can achieve your dreams with a little hard work and determination. Congratulations, guys.

David Knox has revived the *North Wings Skydive Display Team*. Their first demo was into the Emirates Durham ICG to present the match ball not to England's Ben Stokes but, in fact, to the King and Queen of Lesotho! Thanks to Brian Vacher and Flight-1 for the canopy coaching and Ian R for sponsorship.

The improvements and investments have certainly carried on around the centre too. Along with the new hangar doors and greatly extended packing area with padded mats across the whole area, we now have five brand new tandem rigs which will help to get the lifts turning around quicker than ever and get the number of tandem students higher than ever – which ultimately leads to a bigger and better centre! Thanks to Ian for continuing to dig deep to fund the developments.

Simon Minto, Lisa Stephenson and Shell Meakins

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Robel Baysia, Trish Huxtable, Gary Parkes, Roy Stewart, Lillian Taasaasen GRADUATED AFF Paul Bell, Michael Harris, Heather McMullan, Mati Mol, Gary Parkes, Dan Tulley CH2/JM1 Henry Simmons FS1 Katie Stewart TR1 Lukasz Gawlik, Marc Graham, Kieran Hogan, Jay Leighton, Emma Reynolds, Mehdi Shabanzadieh, Henry Simmons JUMP NUMBERS 100 Kieran Hogan, Henry Simmons 200 Emma Reynolds 800 Mark Guyatt 1,300 Andy Brumby



POPS
A three-generation jump: Jeff (middle), Polly (right), Rachael (left on tandem) and Tandem Instructor Jay Brittain

POPS

YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET

There will be a change of Top POP to Polly Chandler as of August 15 2016. Polly takes over from dad Jeff, who hopes to concentrate more on 4-way FS, Accuracy and busting the POPS (36-way, 2006), SOS (13-way, 2014) and JOS (4-way, 2014) National and World Records. Polly – POPS number 1,000 – has just short of 1,000 jumps, while Jeff has 10,000 jumps, and Polly will be our youngest POPS to take us forward.

The POPS hope to complete a new 50-way FS record on September 14-17. We have recently achieved World Records of two-point 8-way SOS, five-point 6-way SOS and 24-point 4-way SOS.

Membership has increased by more than 200 in the last six years. SOS (60) membership is past 70 and we should have approximately 10 new JOS (70) next year.

In August, we have 22 (four FS teams) in the delegation at the POPS World Championships in Eisenach, Germany.

Jeff Chandler (Top POP, D858, POPS 363, SOS 27) →



READING

YOU HAD ME AT PIZZA AND BEER

Well, it's likely that everyone has been affected by the pants weather once more and, since LPS is an outdoor operation with no hangar space, we have been affected with the roll of the die decisions on whether or not to open – right call on most occasions and wrong on others – as well as the ever-challenging wrestle with air traffic control holds. However, we still got some skydiving in and what a great few weeks we've had. The Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/LPSClubJumpers is a great way to easily pass on the open/closed message, so head there to keep in touch with updates.

Congratulations to our mini dynamo Cally Campbell on getting her A Licence along with Stephen 'Jump Hog' Hoare and the ever-charismatic Dixie Arnold.

We also have B Licence achievements from Jan Wilczynski and Stefan Inge. Jan also managed to notch up 100 jumps and hasn't locked himself out of the car just lately.

Frank 'Ronnie' McNicholl, who we have adopted from Skydive Wild Geese, got his C Licence and is always early to flightline – sometimes a whole day early, in fact! Thank to Ronnie for his help around the DZ, and those thanks extend to Roger Davis and our other DZ characters who chip in and help with ground support and catching.

Rachel Hinde-Harris got her 300th jump in on her 40th birthday with a 2-way with hubby Martin. Well done Rachel, and thanks for the bubbly too!

Tracy Stone took to the skies again after a two-year break to become a new mummy to little Oliver, and we are all super proud of the Stone family what with dad Mark becoming a qualified pilot of planes instead of just canopies! A double well done goes to these two.

The LPS tunnel night was great fun, with some 'smashy' 4-way action going on and lots of improvement with coaching from Marie-Ann. We got our families involved too, and Emma's mum Penny got in the airflow and so did Ann's daughter Lydia! Well done everyone.

We've got into a cosy habit of Saturday night pizza and beer evenings when we get a pizza delivery to the airfield and chill out after jumping. A few weekend jumpers and staff camp out and it's a nice way to spend the evening together. Tamsyn Stanton's fire pit has been put to good use too.

We are all missing Matt flying us swiftly to altitude, but Lewis is doing a great job filling big shoes and we're glad to have him at the airfield each weekend. Thank you Lewis! The only odd thing is that Lewis wears approximately 20 layers and a hat on the hottest days – one of the effects of living and working in Spain for so long, we think...

READING
LPS Canopy Course,
by Ann Lewis

Our TIs deserve a small mention. Scott Beach got a 10/5 score for being a great Tandem Instructor from one of his students and that's a new DZ record, so it's time for Clayts to step it up a notch.

And finally, HUGE, HUGE thanks to Paul Floyd for running what was one of the best canopy courses in the country according to feedback from the participants. We are grateful for his time, care and dedication to the club jumpers at LPS in a drive for better canopy control, confidence and ensuring that our DZ is far safer than ever before. Thanks Paul – good work, and everyone was so pleased with the instruction and feedback that you gave. Landing in the crops is but a distant memory for most participants now. Also, thanks to Jay Webster for the Canopy Piloting lessons and guidance.

Late news in (#markclayton), Dylan is not a good boy anymore and mend fast Katie Unwin – flaring is MANDATORY, not optional!

Ann Lewis

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Dixie Arnold, Cally Campbell, Stephen Hoare CH2/JM1 Stefan Inge, Jan Wilczynski
JUMP NUMBERS 50 Stefan Inge 100 Jan Wilczynski 200 Frank McNicholl 300 Rachel Hinde-Harris

SIBSON

CRAZY IS AS CRAZY DOES

Finally, we have had some amazing weather. In fact, we have just picked up the aircraft from servicing and have managed to get through 100 hours in three weeks. Now THAT is some good going.

As I write this, we have just finished up at the Sibson Boogie and we jumped every day for 10 days. We started slow in the early part of the week, but soon built up to some super busy days. On the pre-Boogie weekend, we managed 45 loads in the Caravan.

Boogie Wednesday saw a little break due to weather, so Chris Shaw hosted a Big-way for Beginners seminar that was well received by all those who attended. Many thanks to Chris for stepping in at the last minute and coming up with the goods.

SIBSON
The now-infamous
multiplane big-way

It was great to see the Antonov at Sibson on Thursday and Friday, and the big old beast of a plane was taking jumpers up to about 6k. →



FOR ALL YOUR SKYDIVING GEAR

STUDENT PACKAGES
 COMPLETE PARACHUTE SYSTEMS
 T-SHIRTS | SWEATSHIRTS
 HOODIES | HEAD GEAR
 CAMERA GEAR
 JUMPSUITS
 ALTIMETERS
 GOGGLES | GLOVES | BOOKS
 LOG BOOKS | DVDs | COOL STUFF
 & GADGETS
 + 'FREE' DEMO GEAR AVAILABLE
 (T&C APPLY)



Going abroad?
 Need to hire a rig for your trip? For more information
gojump@dzsports.com



CHECK OUT OUR FANTASTIC ONLINE STORE
WWW.DZSPORTS.COM

EMAIL: SALES@DZSPORTS.COM * TEL: +44 (0)1295 812 101

DZ SPORTS LTD * HINTON AIRFIELD * BRACKLEY * NORTHANTS * NN13 5NS



DEALER FOR ALL MAJOR MANUFACTURERS





www.symbiosissuits.co.uk
www.thekitstoreltd.co.uk

CUSTOM BUILT, STATE OF THE ART SUITS

For all types of Skydiving, from
Formation Skydiving to FreeFly,
Style and Accuracy to Tandem
and Canopy Formation to
Student training

Custom suit designer system
on our web site

We also build a range of other
high quality items including
Weight belts, Gear Bags and
'Warmwear' thermal suits



LARGE STOCK LIST OF NEW AND USED RIGS AND CANOPIES ON OUR WEBSITE



"YES WE
MAIL ORDER
TOO"

PACKING
AND RIGGING
AVAILABLE

VISA



AIRTEC, ICARUS, MIRAGE, SUNPATH, AERODYNE, BONEHEAD, CHUTE SHOP,
SKY SYSTEMS, THOMAS SPORTS, SYMBIOSIS SUITS, PERFORMANCE DESIGNS



The Kit Store

The One Stop Skydiving Shop

Headcorn Airfield, Kent TN27 9HX Tel: 01622 890 967 Fax: 01622 891 236 Email: symbiosis.suits@btinternet.com

THE KIT STORE & SYMBIOSIS SUITS The Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX

Many thanks to Tiggs for bringing her over.

Then we had two Caravans for the remainder of the Boogie. Both flew all weekend, culminating in the now infamous multiplane big-way.

Looking ahead, we are thoroughly looking forward to the Speed 8 comp in September and the legendary Speed 8 party. Keep an eye on our Facebook groups and Twitter feeds!

As usual, we are still looking for good photos and achievements to go in to club news, so get in touch with all your craziness.

Follow us on Twitter and add us to your Facebook via UK Parachuting Sibson Airfield or Sibson Skydivers.

Paul Dorward



SOS

SO CLOSE BUT YET SO FAR

Nearly, so nearly there! Late on the first Sunday in July, members of Skydivers Over Sixty attempted an 18-way formation in the sky over Langar. Sadly, two divers went low and the formation did not build. As organiser Chris Shaw noted, a second attempt would almost certainly have succeeded. This had been the pattern for the weekend and smaller groups of eight to 10, practising and refreshing their skydiving skills, had seen continual improvement. Each jump was better than the last.

One 8-way group led by Ron Wands managed a second point and that is now the best SOS UK recorded 8-way to date. A five-point 6-way which was achieved during a training session two weeks earlier was even better. This not only established a record for an SOS 6-way in the UK, but it also beats any recorded SOS 6-way elsewhere. It is an SOS World Record! Well done to Chris Shaw, Dick Barton, John Boxall, Jeff Chandler, Paul French and Michael Whyborn.

Many thanks are due to Chris Shaw, who organised the event with the assistance of Ron Wands, and to Dave and Angela Hickling and the staff at Langar for helping to make it run smoothly. There will be another attempt before long.

The French and German SOS groups are also aware of the new SOS records and will try to beat them. Eleven SOS members from the UK will be meeting these two groups, along with SOS members from Australia, Russia, Switzerland and 14 other countries, in Germany this August. It should be a good meet with various competitions, good food and the usual tourist visits.

SWANSEA
Beers for the 'Old Farts' with a combined age of more than 300 years!
 By Sara Williams

If you are not already a member of SOS and would like to take part in future events, please complete the membership application form on the SOS website. This can be found at pops.org.uk. More events can be found on Facebook page POPS/SOS/UK.

John Houghland



SWANSEA

FIRST CLASS

Despite the weather in July being poor, we've been hard at it over the past few months. Well done to Alun (now in the 50 club) Jones who organised a few of the 'Old Swansea Crew' for a 4-way 25 years after the original jump centre at Swansea closed. This included Dave Howerski, Tom Cook and Glyn Jones, the latter two having both completed retraining to jump after long layoffs from the sport.

Rhodri and Steve Adams are new additions to the packing team and Sophie is helping on the desk. It seems the race is on to achieve BPA B Licence prior to the Nationals because so many wish to enter and are desperate to qualify. Our second Accuracy landing tuffet arrived direct from the Czech Republic in June and it has certainly been put to good use by our regular Accuracy guys Dave Tylcoat, Jeff and Les. Early indications are that we can expect at least double the number of competitors who entered last year's Nationals, so it should be a good meet.

Finally, going slightly off piste, a big congratulations to Tanya for getting her degree – Bachelor of Engineering with First Class Honours. BEERS!

Remember, the DZ will be closed from September 10-18. In the meantime, we're looking forward to seeing you all soon at Swansea!

Carl Williams

ACHIEVEMENTS **CAT8/CH1** Tracy Coaker, Gavin George, Eloy Navarro, Michael Price, Jay Townsend, Nikki Turner **CH2/JM1** Steve Adams, Eleanor Powell, Brian Stokes **FS1** Gabriella Morgan-Swinhoe **FF1** Jane McNamara **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Steve Adams, Eleanor Powell, Brian Stokes **1,000** Kevin 'Captain Admin' Johnson

SWINDON

ISN'T IT GREAT WHEN THE WEATHER PLAYS BALL?

Wow! What a busy few months we've had at Redlands. This month's club news has to start with massive congratulations to Jenny Bouquet, who is now a fully qualified Tandem Instructor – the ultimate show of girl power. A big whoop whoop to you, Jenny!

We had a visit from Martin Soulsby last month and, for some unknown reason, Brucie thought it would be a good idea for him to jump with Patrick and myself! It didn't take long for Martin to work out that we →



were'n't natural FS flyers, but I do believe that we showed him that Redlands jumpers know how to have fun. Cheers for putting up with us, Martin.

Everyone knows that Jimmy is an out-and-out FS jumper. However, a couple of weeks ago, Jimmy was caught practising some backflying in the mock up, which he then fell out of, on his back! Try it in the sky next time, Jimmy – it's much more fun. Oh, and welcome to the dark side.

More canopy courses have been held at Redlands along with plenty of off landings! Patrick always likes to show his face when the canopy courses are on – go figure! – but it also seems like Patrick is so overcome with emotion when jumping in front of his hero Wez that he just cannot seem to land on his feet. Don't worry Patrick, I'm sure you're still his most favourite student!

Darrell never disappoints us when it comes to giving us material for the club news and this month is no exception. In fact, I think Darrell has outdone himself this month! First off, he managed to film the wrong tandem. He realised during freefall when he saw Dan laughing at him! Then, a couple of weeks ago, when Darrell was doing student talkdowns, he managed to land them all off. I believe a couple of them are still making their way back from Devon! Just keep swimming, Darrell, just keep swimming...

Anthony Andrews is now known as The Welsh Princess because he was too tired to come into work one Saturday due to having had too much fun in the tunnel! As you can imagine, this went down really well with Brucie.

Aaron and Ellie – half of *Team Cake* – took a road trip to France and managed to get null points from 20k. Meanwhile, back at Redlands, Mandy and Rayner got seven points from 10k.

Bud has managed to avoid landing in any trees for almost four months, mainly due to the fact that he hasn't been jumping! Brucie has loved having lots more freeflyers at Redlands and he's even invented a new dock; it's called the cock dock! Not entirely sure that it will catch on, though. Shaun Zerebecki finally managed to get a hard dock and he managed a small smile! Chris from the Backstreet Boys still can't get close enough to get a dock – keep practising Chris, you know what they say: practice makes perfect. Doog does... must try harder!

Cath Thorne

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Gil Fernandes, Sophie Harris, Fabian Hellier, Mason Jones, Tom Reynolds, Ronnie Shalom
FS1 Ian Gerrish, Arthur Smith **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Ellie Bramer, Heath Flicos, Ian Gerrish, Arthur Smith, Sarah Jayne Thorp, Karen Wendland **200** Aaron Doy, Hazel Tyrrell, Shaun Zerebecki **300** Cath Thorne **500** Jon 'the bomb' Eeles **1,000** Mike McHale

TILSTOCK

SUNSHINE AND 12-WAYS

Well, whoever managed to fix the weather can come to Tilly and have a drink on us! Since the strange yellow orb in the sky made its grand comeback, things have been moving on apace at Tilly and there has been a great deal of progression. Just look at the achievements list for this month!

Progression has been helped by the additional coaching here at Tilly and we have enjoyed the aid of a number of visiting coaches over the past few months. One of our own club members has taken the step into coaching and Tom Rees has gained his BFF Coach qualification. We are very pleased to see our club's ability to support and encourage talent at all levels growing apace. As well as extra coaching, Richie Barron has excelled himself and achieved Advanced Instructor rating – we're very proud of the lad!

Tilly Turbine Time over the late May Bank Holiday Weekend was a tremendous success to say the least! Our gratitude to Ash Kemp for his piloting over the weekend is immense; he did a superb job and we were jumping out of that Grand Caravan like lemmings. Given the fact that we had such a platform, it's not surprising that some of the biggest formations seen over Tilstock for a long time were put out, including a successful 12-way. I know it's not big compared with some other clubs but, when your normal plane takes seven, it's a big deal to us.

There was an enormous amount of progression due to the facilities on tap that weekend and a big thank you must go out to all of the coaches who put an enormous amount of effort in as well. It was delightful to see many old and new faces back at Tilly for the fun and games, and I think everyone went away with a smile and a story. A big thank you to a certain Scottish visitor who brought haggis and some excellent black pudding – thank you Andy Gibson, please come again! Kat and Buzz (our new DZ operators and CI) had their work cut out, but looked suitably pleased with the whole weekend. Special mention must also go to Sarah Minshull, who became our first AFF student of several who jumped over the weekend. Yes, Tilly can now offer AFF – contact the office for more details. →

TILSTOCK

Pete Dickens, the skydiver with the mostest over the Easter Weekend.
 By Barry Jones



JUMP INTO
PARADISE!



iBOOK NOW!

Tandem Jump available.

WWW.SKYDIVINGCOSTARICA.COM



Skydive Costa Rica
(506) 8406-8544 / 8350-2746
Puntarenas & Quepos, Manuel Antonio



**CUSTOM PULL-UP CORDS
CUSTOM WINDBLADES
CUSTOM LARGE BANNERS**

#1

advertising tool
in skydiving

SIMPLY THE BEST AND FAVORITE PULL-UP CORDS
HANDS-DOWN AROUND THE WORLD.
SMOOTH, CLOSING LOOP FRIENDLY, COLORFUL
ADVERTISING FOR YOUR EVENT, PRODUCT OR
COMPANY FROM OPTION STUDIOS!



- DOUBLE SIDED
- PRE-CUT
- DYE-SUBLIMATED IN BRIGHT RICH COLOR!
- 100% SLICK POLYESTER
- CLOSING LOOP FRIENDLY
- DESIGN YOUR OWN OR HAVE OPTION DESIGN ONE FOR YOU!



YES! WE SHIP WORLDWIDE

WE SUPPLY NEARLY EVERY MAJOR MANUFACTURER, DROPZONE AND MAJOR EVENT

INFO@PULLUPCORDS.COM pullupcords.com



In the middle of all this, Richie Barron ran another successful safety day on the Sunday which was appreciated by all those who were able to attend. In the midst of all this business, we did manage to do some relaxing, helped by the beautiful weather all weekend, and much fun was had by all.

As a result of all the activity, we managed to get Tilly into the local press for some favourable comment – in three different papers, in fact. It was very pleasing to see such good press coverage locally.

I'm also delighted to report that Gareth Woods has returned to the air after his nasty neck break and has continued to jump, being suitably careful! On the subject of nasty accidents, our source reports that one of our TIs has recently proven that kicking bricks is seriously detrimental to your health even if they are your own bricks and you put them there. I'm glad to report that Paul has now healed and he is back in the air again after an extended grass cutting tour of the airfield.

On the back of all this progress, Tilly is now delighted to announce that a fully qualified drop-in vet service is available for the first time as our very own qualified vet, Henna, has qualified as a skydiver too! We also managed to get our own flying doctor as Rachel O'Hara got through after starting static line with us, did a bit of AFF at Netheravon and then completed her consols back home. However, as her PhD isn't medical, we don't advise taking all of her advice.

A very special congratulations are due to two of our TIs after Tony Lightfoot clocked his 6,000th skydive and Chris Gilmore completed his 10,000th skydive! Chris reckons approximately 8,500 of his total are tandems. Chris started as a student at Shobdon in 1978 and Tony at Montford Bridge on an undisclosed date.

Another historic moment passed in July when our CI Buzz passed into that awkward age halfway between membership of POPS and SOS. Happy birthday, Buzz.

We're now looking forward to continuing our fun over the summer, but at a more normal pace until we recover. Then bring on the turbine madness again – we loved it!

Gary Windon

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** Adelle Collins **CAT8/CH1** Piotr Czartolomny, Lee Hackland, Henna Niutanen, Rachel O'Hara **FS1** Sean Crooks, Jaroslaw Jochymczyk, Steve Pugh, Victoria Taylor **FF1** Pete Dickens **WS1** Pete Dickens, Steve Parton **TR1** Tom Rees, Vinnie Ware **JUMP NUMBERS** **200** Jaroslaw Jochymczyk, Adam Roberts, Dave Titcombe, Vinnie Ware **300** Pete Dickens, Ellie Southworth **800** Dave Gordon **1,400** Roger Hughes **6,000** Tony Lightfoot **10,000** Chris Gilmore

“Linley Ewing was bustin' out the jumps in Chicago and bypassed numbers 700 and 800, not to mention his USPA Coach rating – but I think you only have to buy a beer at the bar to get that?”

WILD GEESE

IF IT'S NOT JUMPING WEATHER, JUST WAIT FIVE MINUTES

While June threatened to lead to a glorious summer with long, warm and sunny days, the July period has been somewhat changeable and it's been challenging to read the forecast. While I'm sure they are well-educated people, the forecasters don't seem to have a clue what the weather will be doing either. Nonetheless, we have endeavoured to introduce as many new first-time jumpers and charity fundraisers as possible in the changeable conditions.

We have had numerous developments with some of our regular crew and newbies at Wild Geese recently. Well done to Paul MacDonald and Gary Topping, who completed their first freefalls. Neal 'Maverick' Fitzpatrick competed in his first wingsuit competition! Simon Finlay reached the milestone of 300 jumps, while Linley Ewing was bustin' out the jumps in Chicago and bypassed numbers 700 and 800, not to mention his USPA Coach rating – but I think you only have to buy a beer at the bar to get that?

And it doesn't stop there! Levi Hamill, also on top of jump number 300, got TR1 and TR2 as well. After a short spell on the sidelines, Nicola McDermott is now ready to join us with her head literally back in the clouds – welcome back, Nicola. And finally, Mark McGarvey achieved absolutely nothing along with Sandra McMurran, who has been a wee rascal.

The penultimate note is to wish Francis Mullan all the best in his retirement from tandem duties. Maybe now he'll get back to that thing called fun jumping? If he remembers what it is, of course...

The final note for this edition is to wish Captain Chris Doherty, pilot extraordinaire, all the very best in his emigration to sunny Dubai to take control of the 777s or A380s at Emirates Airlines on behalf of all the staff and jumpers at Wild Geese. We look forward to welcoming you back any time!

Until the next time, keep your head on a swivel!

Rod McCrory

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** Paul MacDonald, Gary Topping **TR1** Levi Hamill **TR2** Levi Hamill **JUMP NUMBERS** **300** Simon Finlay, Levi Hamill **700** Linley Ewing **800** Linley Ewing

WILD GEESE
Drew escorts
Chris on his final
flight, by Jo Wilson





**WE GO TOGETHER
LIKE FISH & CHIPS**

Javelin Odyssey X Javelin Odyssey Javelin Javelin Accuracy Sun Path Student

Quality gear from across the pond


PIA Sustaining member of the PIA

Made with pride in Raeford, NC, USA

Contact your local Sun Path dealer or visit us at: www.sunpath.com



**WE SUIT YOU
ALONG THE WAY...**
jumpsuits & accessories for any cases



rainbow
DESIGN

rainbow design gmbh
Flugplatzstraße 3 · D-16833 Fehrbellin · Germany
T: +49 (0) 33932-72461 · F: +49 (0) 33932-72463
E-Mail: info@rainbowsuits.com
rdwings.com · rainbowsuits.com

GATORZ

PRECISION BUILT EYEWEAR




**THERE IS NO
SUBSTITUTE**

www.gatorzeyewear.com

HAD A RESERVE REPACK RECENTLY? DID YOU GET....?

- Thorough inspection, air, repack of reserve canopy?
- Thorough inspection and air of main canopy?
- Thorough inspection of harness/container?
- New main and reserve closure loops?
- New bungees on deployment bag?
- Comprehensive advice on any rigging requirements?

NO? YOU DO HERE



BE SAFE

While you wait reserve repacks
available by appointment

Point Zero Ltd, Hinton Airfield, Brackley,
Northants. NN13 5NS UNITED KINGDOM

Tel: +44 (0)1295 810600 sales@pointzero.co.uk

www.pointzero.co.uk

Back to the '80s
with regular
cheap ticket days!
£12-£16 to FL150

Follow us on Facebook for events
& cheap jump days

office@skydive99.com
01404 890222
Dunkeswell Airfield, EX14 4LG



JUMPS	MEASURED TO:
Novice 50 - 100	- 25m
Intermediate 100+	- 5m
Senior	16 cms



BPA National Accuracy Championship 2016
Swansea August 27-29

e: info@skydiveswansea.com T: 01792 207035

Life Insurance & Disability Cover

For Skydivers



sports
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Online Enquiries: www.sports-fs.co.uk
or Call a Consultant: 0345 565 0935

Skydive
AUSTRALIA

nZONE
SKYDIVE



— SKYDIVING INSTRUCTORS WANTED —

Skydive Australia is looking to hire qualified Tandem and AFF instructors for its 18 DZs across Australia and New Zealand (including NZone).

- Seasonal and full time work available
- Preferably Sigma rated
- Ideally eligible for a working holiday visa
- 100+ tandems

If a lifestyle of awesome jumps, meat pies and BBQs is of interest, send a cover letter and your skydiving CV to careers@skydive.com.au

SKYDIVE.COM.AU

Intrud *air*
by **ORGA**

www.intrudair.com

ORGA



FreeFly | RW | Tunnel | Swoop | CAMSuit | Tracking | WingSuit | Other Gear

Bev Suits

"The official suit of Team Fastrax"



"We use Bev Suits because of the quality construction and incredible service. Performing in the most extreme conditions requires the best for our demonstrators"

John Hart,
Team Fastrax

WWW.BEVSUIT.COM

8398 Lyon Valley Rd., New Tripoli, PA 18066 - USA
TEL/FAX 610-285-6994

Organizing a big event??
Or airplane problems??



Available for short term lease:

Cessna Supervan

15 pax - 900 HP - inflight door

Call for **SPECIAL**
ferry prices!!

PARACENTRUM TEXEL

JB Rienks

jb@paracentrumtexel.nl

Tel: +31 (0) 222311464

Mob: +31 (0) 621580487



New  **Intrudair** wingsuits on the sky!
skydiving and base gear

Baracuda
freestyle

Baracuda
POWER

Baracuda



JUMP | PLAY | LIVE

www.intrudair.com

Service & Repairs



28 High Street
Whitchurch
Shropshire.
SY13 1AU
01948 662179

Dodington's Sports Instruments



 **THAI SKY**
ADVENTURES

Where will you be this winter?
Thailand has it all...



EFS

+66 (0) 85 900 3412

www.thaiskyadventures.com

Skydiving & Sport Scuba Diving Medicals

Dr Margaret Clamp
MC Occupational Health
The Corner House
Rectory Road, Colwick
Nottingham NG4 2DU.
Mobile: 0780 2850084
Email: mclamp@doctors.org.uk

£50



**RHOMECH
RIGGING UK**

You dare, we care!

Professional skydiver rigging service

Weight belts made to order including custom embroidery and colours - order today!

"We have a courier service available to transport your rig to us and back, typically within a 5 day turnaround

Your kit is fully insured the whole time it is in our care and during transit too!

PLUS - a free rigging pouch with every reserve repack" Gary RRUk

Get in touch via
[facebook.com/RhomechRiggingUK](https://www.facebook.com/RhomechRiggingUK)
or visit our website

(e) gary@rhomechrigginguk.com (t) 07775 894 877
www.RhomechRiggingUK.com
Rhomech Rigging loft location:
6 West End, Tilshead, Salisbury, SP3 4SG

Australia's Largest International

Freerfall & Music Festival

EQUINOX

8-16 October 2016

- TURBINE AEROPLANES
- MASON CORBY - FREEFLY COACH
- KEITH GREALY & MATT BOAG - FREEFLY
- CHRIS BYRNES & TRAVIS NAUGHTON - WINGSUITING
- GREG JACK & MARK "STRETCH" SZULMAYER - FLAT FLY COACHES
- COACHES & LOAD ORGANISERS
- NIGHTLY DAY TAPES, RAFFLES & ENTERTAINMENT
- EQUINOX TALENT QUEST • NIGHT JUMPS
- COCKTAILS AT THE POOL WITH LIVE MUSIC!

skydive ramblers
EQUINOX BOOGIE, TOODOOLAWAH

Famous For Fun!

www.ramblers.com.au
p: +61 7 5423 1159 e: SKYDIVE@RAMBLERS.COM.AU



Team TBC over Dunkeswell manage to kick their teammate Ben somewhere delicate on a P launch... By Joe Mann



August

August 13-14

CF BPA CF Coaching Roadshow

Location: **Chatteris** • ukskydiving.com

August 15-19

BPA CSI/Tandem/AFF Instructor Course

Location: **Skydive Headcorn** • headcorn.com

August 20-22

FS **A** BPA 4-way FS Nationals and VFS Nationals

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

August 20-27

CP Canopy Piloting World Cup

Location: **Farnham, Canada**

August 26-29

S&A BPA Classic Accuracy Nationals

Location: **Swansea** • skydiveswansea.co.uk

August 27-29

FS Backup BPA 4-way FS Nationals

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

August 27-29

FS **A** BPA 8-way FS, Artistic and Speed Nationals

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

September

September 10-21

FS **CF** **S&A** **A** **U**

Mondial 2016

Location: **Skydive Chicago**

September 14-17

U POPS Formation Record Attempt

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

September 17-18

CP BPA Canopy Piloting Grand Prix

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

September 17-18

FS BPA Speed 8 Nationals

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

September 22

BPA STC and Riggers' Meetings

Location: **Blaby Civic Centre, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

October

October 4

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **Blaby Civic Centre, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

October 6-9

FS ESL Finals

Location: **Saarlouis, Germany** • fsz-saar.de

October 11-16

U World Cup in Indoor Skydiving

Location: **Warsaw, Poland**

October 31-November 4

BPA CSBI/AFFBI/TBI/Advanced Instructor Course

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

November

November 2-10

WS Wingsuit Performance World Championships and Acro World Cup

Location: **Z-Hills, Florida** • skydivecity.com

November 7-11

BPA CSI Instructor Course

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

November 17

BPA STC and Riggers' Meetings

Location: **Blaby Civic Centre, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

November 29

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **Blaby Civic Centre, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

2017

January 28 2017

BPA BPA Skydive the Expo and BPA AGM

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

Dates correct at time of printing

KEY

BPA BPA EVENTS
CP CANOPY PILOTING
FS FORMATION SKYDIVING

CF CANOPY FORMATION
S&A STYLE AND ACCURACY
B/F BOOGIES/FUN

A ARTISTICS
WS WINGSUIT
U UNCLASSIFIED (inc POPS)



pilot 7

ULTRA CONSISTANT OPENING CHARACTERISTICS,
DELIVERING 9 CELL PERFORMANCE IN A 7 CELL PACKAGE,
AND THE LOWEST PACK VOLUME IN IT'S CLASS.

ZPX ULTRA-LPV OPTIONS AVAILABLE



 AERODYNE

 FLYAERODYNE

RETHINK SEVEN

DISCOVER THE PILOT 7 ONLINE FLYAERODYNE.COM



aerodyne



Skydive
THOMAS SPORTS
T S

Panthera



+44 (0)1262 678299
 enquiries@thomas-sports.com

www.thomas-sports.com



**SHOP ONLINE WITH US FOR ALL
 YOUR SKYDIVING NEEDS:**

Rigs	Altimeters
Mains	Head Gear
Reserves	Goggles
Vigil 2	Gloves
Airtec Cypres 2	and more

Full Rigging Service Available



**THOMAS DEFENCE
 SYSTEMS**

ISO 9001-2008