



British Parachute Association skydivethemag.com August 2017

skyDIVE

the mag

SINCE 1964



INSIDE: HOW TO SURVIVE A CANOPY COLLISION CAMERAFLYING FOR VFS MASTERCLASS
THE INSIDE STORY OF THE HEAD UP EURO RECORD MIND GAMES AND HEADSPACE HELP
RISE UP PROGRAMME INFO PLUS ALL THE LATEST NEWS, REVIEWS, IDEAS AND EVENTS

FREEFALL UNIVERSITY

British instructors in Madrid

“FOR ONCE YOU HAVE TASTED FLIGHT YOU WILL WALK THE EARTH WITH YOUR EYES TURNED SKYWARDS, FOR THERE YOU HAVE BEEN AND THERE YOU WILL LONG TO RETURN”

JOHN HERMES SECONDARI

Daily departures from 12 UK airports

SAMPLE PACKAGE:

- London to Madrid return
 - Single Room (2* accommodation 6 days)
 - Transport in Spain
 - AFF Course (BPA A Licence upgrade possible)
- £1,479**

Add 15 minutes in our 4.6m wind tunnel for just £139.

Practice the skydives with your AFF tutor in the tunnel before first skydive.

Want your full BPA A Licence? Then add ten solos for £335 (includes equipment and packing).



UPCOMING EVENTS

FS1 Training Camp (3 days):
Starts September 11th & October 16th
Mix of tunnel and sky. Get your FS1 sticker in three days from start to finish.

BPA B Licence Rapid Progression:
Starts Sept 11th, Sept 29th & Oct 27th
JM1, CH2 and Canopy Course. One Stop workshops.

☎ **0207 870 2505**
CALL UNTIL 10PM DAILY

🌐 freefalluniversity.co.uk

WELCOME

Cover: Wes Guest approaches Kel Spittle at the Langar CF Grand Prix, by Ming Chu

Welcome: Kel Spittle having fun, by Ming Chu



WELCOME



August is here, and it brings events and education galore. We have several new contributors writing articles this issue, so thanks to them all for stepping up and getting involved. Remember, we welcome photos and articles from everyone regardless of experience so, if you think you can help us to make the Mag even better, you are welcome to join in.

I smiled while putting together BPA Zone this month – it's always a proud moment celebrating all the new ratings, but I've never seen three new female Tandem Instructors in one Mag before! Perhaps Yo Lee's article in December 2016 has provided some inspiration, but we still only have 11 female TIs in the BPA out of a total of 315.

I also smiled wryly while reading Linley Ewing's Safety Zone and his experience of watching jumpers do their drills wrong on the ground. Like Linley, I also ran similar sessions at Netheravon and, like Linley, I was surprised at how many people got things wrong. One particularly memorable mess-up was when I asked a roomful of people to imagine that the chair they were sitting on was actually the floor of the aircraft, with the pilot behind them. I told them to close their eyes, then to "Brace, brace, brace". Half the room leaned forwards as if they were in a 747, half correctly leaned back and I remember being very glad that I wasn't JM at 300ft with them in an aircraft emergency!

Finally, I'll leave you with a direct quote from Aussie Steve Smith's excellent article which starts on page 23. "Knowing canopy collision emergency procedures is great, but it is not enough. There will be at least two people involved and your highest probability collision is with one of your close jumping friends. Help educate them like both your lives might depend on it."

Liz Ashley

NZAEROSPORTS.COM

SALES@NZAEROSPORTS.COM

#MADEINNEWZEALAND



THIS IS HOW WE DO JUSTICE TO THE CROSSFIRE LEGEND.

ICARUS
Crossfire 3



Kel Spittle pilots while Wes Guest has a backwards moment, by Ming Chu

IN THIS ISSUE

03 Welcome

to the August edition of *Skydive the Mag*

06 Info Zone

Who to contact and how

08 News Zone

Skydiving in the Olympics? Maybe in 2024...

11 BPA Zone

News and announcements from BPA HQ

15 Comps Zone

Life in the fast lane, great team names, how to get on the right side of the Judges and waving a sword about

23 How to survive a canopy collision

Canopy collisions kill. Here's how to give yourself the best chance of survival

28 Head Up Euro Record

The inside story from Karim Shokraee

32 Cameraflying for VFS

A masterclass in VFS videography from *Omni*

39 NFTO

Getting in the right headspace for jumping

45 Rise Up

The first success story from the BPA's new mentoring programme

48 Progression Zone

How to rock great exits

51 Safety Zone

Do you really know your drills? And do you want to bet your life on that?

55 Gear Zone

Macca tempts fate and the British summer by talking about shades and sunscreen

57 DZs

How to contact DZs and parachuting societies

58 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 on behalf of British Parachute Association Ltd by: Archant Dialogue, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 664242
archantdialogue.co.uk



ARCHANT } ARCHANT DIALOGUE IS PART OF ARCHANT COMMUNITY MEDIA

Liz Ashley EDITOR

Mike Waters CONTENT PRODUCTION EDITOR

Mary Munford ASSISTANT EDITOR

James Macdonald PR AND SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Matt Copland DESIGNER

Janell Varden ACCOUNT MANAGER

Nicky Wright STUDIO MANAGER

Kay Brown ADVERTISING PRODUCTION

Lucy Bendall ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

Richard Berry ART DIRECTOR

Isobel Robson HEAD OF ADVERTISING

Jason Elkins HEAD OF CLIENT SERVICES

Ryan Battles CONTENT AND BRAND DIRECTOR

Zoë Francis-Cox AGENCY DIRECTOR

© BRITISH PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION LTD 2017

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.

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 Crocker, John Lines, Chris Allen, John Smyth MVO, John Hitchen

Officers and Committee Chairs

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

Craig Poxon Vice Chair craig@bpa.org.uk

Debbie Carter Treasurer skydive@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

apples@bpa.org.uk

Council Members

Mark Bayada mark.bayada@bpa.org.uk

Nick Bunting* nick@bpa.org.uk

Brian Cumming brianc@bpa.org.uk

Tash Higman tash@bpa.org.uk

Yassi Molazadeh yassi@bpa.org.uk

Sue Stanhope* sue.stanhope@bpa.org.uk

*Independent Non-Executive Directors

Delegates

Craig Poxon Royal Aero Club Delegate

Martin Soulsby RAeC Alternate Delegate

John Smyth MVO IPC Delegate

Craig Poxon IPC Alternate Delegate

Staff

Tony Butler Chief Operating Officer

Jeff Montgomery Safety and Technical Officer

Trudy Kemp PA to the above officers

Jon Gretton Financial Administrator

Martin Shuttleworth Secretary-General

Karey Goodwin Membership Services

Sue Allen Membership Services

Helen Lucas Administration Secretary

David Lucas Stock Controller

Meghan Sheedy Competitions Co-ordinator

Archivists

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

RECOGNISED BY



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 and social media
macca@bpa.org.uk

ADVERTISING

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

CONTRIBUTE

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

Deadlines you need to know:

Issue	Copy deadline	To reader
October 2017	August 23	September 28
December 2017	October 19	November 23



ONE SOURCE

A SINGLE MANUFACTURER FOR ALL YOUR SKYDIVING NEEDS. FROM STUDENTS TO WORLD CHAMPIONS. MAIN CANOPIES, RESERVE CANOPIES, AND HARNESS CONTAINER SYSTEMS DEVELOPED IN SYNCHRONICITY. ALL ELEMENTS PERFECTLY FITTED TO FUNCTION ONE WITH THE OTHER, AND YOU.



ICAN

ZPX

ZULU

SmartLV

Pilot

SENSEI

pilot7

A2

Triathlon

Solo

Smart RESERVE

f AERODYNE

Instagram FLYAERODYNE

RETHINK

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF AERODYNE ONLINE FLYAERODYNE.COM



WORLD GAMES

Will competitive skydiving ever become an Olympic sport? For any skydivers out there who are serious about competition, I'm sure you have asked yourself that question. Why isn't our sport up there with the rest? Badminton, taekwondo, archery and soon-to-be-debuted surfing, skateboarding and sport climbing – isn't it our turn?

The choice of which sports take part in the Olympics is up to the 90 members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), who make the decision on the basis of proposals from each games' local organising committee via the Olympic Programme Commission. These proposals are evaluated against five categories, split into 35 criteria: Olympic proposal; institutional matters; value added to the Olympic movement; popularity; and the business model.

SO HOW DO WE GET NOTICED?

One of the testing grounds for the IOC to assess a particular sport is an event held every four years called The World Games. The IOC grants its patronage to all editions of The World Games, and the International World Games Association (IWGA) explicitly accepts and adheres to all principles in the Olympic Charter. While not all sports added to the Olympics follow this route (surfing and skateboarding were not featured, but all others listed above were), The World Games is widely considered the best way to showcase a discipline for the IOC to assess its applicability and appeal. Will the spectators enjoy the event? Is it easy to follow? Is there a diverse field of athletes in the sport? These are all important considerations for the IOC.

The first World Games were held back in 1981 in Santa Clara, USA. London then played host in 1985, based at Royal Holloway College.

Back then, the Games included future Olympic sports such as archery, power

lifting, taekwondo and trampolining, but it wasn't until 1997 in Lahti, Finland that skydiving became a feature. In that year, Formation Skydiving (4-way), Accuracy and Freestyle were included to test the waters. Then, in Duisburg, Germany in 2005, a few more disciplines were also featured – Freestyle and Canopy Piloting (CP having been born as a competitive discipline a few years prior). The IWGA changed it up for the 2009 Games in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, dropping Freestyle and adding Canopy Formation to the roster. In this year, Team GB took a very impressive bronze medal in Freestyle with Adam Mattacola, Mikey Carpenter and Alberto Fuertes from *Volare*.

Unfortunately, that was the last time that Freestyle featured, along with every skydiving discipline except Canopy Piloting. The axe came down on the events that were not instantly gratifying and spectator-friendly, leaving CP as the last event standing for

skydiving. And so it has been for the 2013 Games in Cali, Colombia and now the 2017 Games in July in Wroclaw, Poland.

WORLD GAMES 2017

The IWGA have made some changes to the CP competition this year to make it as appealing as possible – Freestyle will be featured for three rounds on top of the normal nine rounds, no doubt as a crowd-pleaser. This is generally seen by the competitors as a positive move, as even CP can get repetitive to the spectator after a whole planeload of athletes have carved through the same speed course.

The field in Wroclaw was made up of the top 30 male CP athletes, the top two female athletes and a few others invited by the IGWA. Martin Reynolds was part of the delegation in Cali 2013 and Maxine Tate represented Team GB in Poland. A new scoring system was in place, based on rank rather than percentages. Competitors scored their rank for each round, with the lowest overall total winning gold. That honour went to Nick Batsch (USA), with injured defending champion Curt Bartholomew (USA) winning silver (and his wife Jeannie placing 12th) and Cornelia Mihai (UAE) taking bronze. Maxine Tate, representing Team GB, had a spectacular first Freestyle jump to place seventh on that round, and came in 33rd overall.

THE FUTURE

As it stands, the new Olympic sports for 2020 have already been announced so our eyes are on the prize of the 2024 Olympics in either Los Angeles or Paris. So, for all those young budding swoopers out there or for anyone in the sport with aspirations to go to the Olympics, you have been given fair warning – possibly seven years' warning! Get educated, get practising and get on it! There's hope yet...

Maxine Tate

Maxine Tate on a World Games CP run, by Marcus King for the FAI



Jamie Arnold and Dan Guest of GB Freestyle team Volosity, by Will Penny

GO TEAM GB!

Good luck to all competitors representing the BPA on the world stage this summer. Maxine Tate has already donned her Union Flag, dyed her hair and swooped her socks off for us at the World Games; next up is the World Cup in FS, Artistics and Speed in Saarlouis in August.

Current National Freestyle Champions *Volosity* have been training hard to put together a dynamic and technical routine and are sure to amaze. Speed will also be hotly contested, with the BPA delegation fielding a formidable lineup. Max Hurd is the current UK Record Holder, ISSA World Series Champion 2017 and a member of the

'500 Club'. He has already won a bronze medal at the World Championships 2016, but can he beat that at the World Cup? Read more from Max on page 15 of this Mag. He is joined by James Parker, Lucy Westgarth and Cez Krzyckowski.

The British FS teams entering the 4-way Open are *Chimera*, *Antimatter*, *Eros* and *Tyranno4us*

Rex. 4-way Female sees us cheering on *Keshshin* and *PTW*, while *Awkward Turtles* and *Project: Ride the Dragon* will be flying the flag for us in 8-way.

Later in August, the European Championships in Style and Accuracy will take place in Montenegro. Good luck to BPA competitors Esther Reynolds and Isaac Brown.

INKA'S GOT TALENT!

Indoor Freestyle World Champion Inka Tiitto continues to inspire bodyflyers around the globe with her sensational tunnel flying. Her graceful white-jumpsuited routines have stunned skydivers with their elegance, but her international reach goes far beyond our small world of parachutes

and tubes of air. The Finnish dancer's YouTube videos have been viewed hundreds of thousands of times by members of the public who have never been near freefall and now Inka is bringing the sport to the main stage by making it as a contestant on *America's Got Talent*. We can't reveal what happens, so you'll just have to follow this amazing woman. Good luck, Inka.

ROYAL PATRON

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales has kindly agreed to extend his patronage of the British Parachute Association for a further five-year term from July 2017. We are delighted that His Royal Highness has decided to continue his long-standing support.

BUY ONLINE

YOUR SKYDIVE GEAR



MARIO FATTORUSO



bertrand
adrenaline.com
SKYDIVE EQUIPMENT
Calendar 2017_2018



bertrand
adrenaline.com
SKYDIVE EQUIPMENT
Calendar 2017_2018



DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR PHOTO ON THE NEW BERTRAND ADRENALINE CALENDAR

POST YOUR PHOTO WITH A BERTRAND PRODUCT ON OUR OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE
THE BEST 12 PHOTOS WILL BE SELECTED



bertrand
adrenaline.com
SKYDIVE EQUIPMENT

FOLLOW US
    

BPA AGM AND BPA SKYDIVE THE EXPO 2018



BPA Skydive the Expo 2018 will be held on the day of the BPA AGM, Saturday 27 January 2018, at EMCC Nottingham. Enjoy the exhibition, prizes, seminars, surprises and, most of all, the camaraderie of skydiving's 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! There will be 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 610 452 or marie@eventprouk.com. Sponsorship opportunities are also available, so please enquire.

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

BPA DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE UPDATED

The BPA Disciplinary Procedure has been updated in line with current best practice, which included taking independent external legal advice. Complaint(s) of a disciplinary nature received after Monday 3 July 2017 will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures set out in the updated BPA Form 256 (issue 5, July 2017). All disciplinary complaints and cases received or started before that date will follow the procedure that was in place at the relevant time. Form 256 is downloadable from the BPA website (via the 'Search Forms' box) together with Form 256a, Disciplinary Procedure chart (issue 1, July 2017).

The BPA Grievance and Disciplinary Working Party, chaired by Council member and lawyer Yassi Molazadeh, will next consider an update of the BPA Grievance Procedure, including whether the Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures can be combined.

AWARDS OPEN FOR NOMINATION

Nominations are open for the following BPA awards:



- BPA STAR, for great service from a member. See bpa.org.uk/star. Closing date: Wednesday 1 November 2017



- BPA Safety Innovation Award for Sport Parachuting sponsored by the BPA's insurance partners, Romero Sports and Leisure and Liberty Mutual Insurance. £5,000 cash prize. See: bpa.org.uk/staysafe/safety-innovation-award. Closing date: Wednesday 1 November 2017

- BPA Taz Causer Experienced Skydiver of the Year Award 2017. Nominations 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 BPA HQ at skydive@bpa.org.uk. Closing date: Tuesday 14 November 2017

KATE CHARTERS



On June 13, Kate Charters resigned her seat on Council and from her role as Judges' Co-ordinator. Kate stood down for personal reasons.

In accordance with custom and practice, casual vacancies on Council are not filled and the seat will be among those contested at the next election at the turn of the year (as it would always have been because it was a one-year seat under the transitional arrangements).

Tash Higman, Vice Chair of the Competitions Committee, is Acting Judges' Co-ordinator pending confirmation of future arrangements by that Committee.



NEW RATINGS

CATEGORY SYSTEM BASIC INSTRUCTOR

Calum Morell
Arran Tilley
Peter Lehane

TANDEM BASIC INSTRUCTOR

Ryan Beattie
Kate Lindsley
Edward King
Marcus Fountain
Joby Chadd
Adam George

AFF BASIC INSTRUCTOR

Rob Gunson

CATEGORY SYSTEM INSTRUCTOR

Amii Calway
Danielle Hodgson
Alasdair Tebbutt
Alan Winkler
Paula Livingstone
Liam Power

TANDEM INSTRUCTOR

Edward King
Freya Lees



Rebecca Bradley
Victoria Bradley
James 'Macca' Macdonald
Maximus Meridius
Andrew Parker
Leigh Hobson
Matthew Gardner
Brendan O'Rafferty
Benjamin Simpson
Colin Jenkins

AFF INSTRUCTOR

Becky Hill
Jack Bradford
Tom Shorten

ADVANCED PACKER

Dean Hoskins (S)
William Ross (S)
Elod-Jozsef Otvos (S)
Gary Chapman (S)
Phil Wayper (S)

ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR

Grant (Dougie)
Macpherson



Photo: Luciano Baque



Cuatro

Skydiving has evolved
over the years.
So has Vigil !

Excited to
announce the
New Vigil Cuatro.



The Original
Multimode AAD
+ Vigil Xtreme mode.
Four modes in one unit.
The most advanced
"Guardian Angel"
on the market !



Photos & design: Willy Boeykens

www.vigil.aero

**PERFORMANCE
DESIGNS**



PHOTO BY: JC COLCLASURE



WE HEAR "I LOVE MY SABRE2" EVERYWHERE WE GO. THIS MONTH WE'LL CELEBRATE THE PRODUCTION OF THE 20,000TH SABRE2 AND WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU: THE SABRE2 JUMPER. YOU BELONG TO A FAMILY THAT INCLUDES WORLD CHAMPIONS, FUN JUMPERS, AND THOSE JUST STARTING IN OUR GREAT SPORT. THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE SABRE2 WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT CONTINUES TO BE: YOUR CANOPY OF CHOICE.

**WE DESIGNED IT, WE BUILT IT,
YOU MADE IT GREAT**

WWW.PERFORMANCEDESIGNS.COM/MYSABRE2

1 GOING FAST IN STYLE

WORLD FIRST FOR GB SPEEDERS

The International Speed Skydiving Association (ISSA) World Series final competition was recently held at Dunkeswell. The winner was Max Hurd, second went to Matthew Byrne and third went to Mikey Lovemore – the first time

1 Max Hurd,
top Speeder,
by Sabine Diem

that Brits have taken all three podium spots in a World Series competition. Matthew Byrne is also now the 11th member of 'The 500 Club' and fourth fastest skydiver ever at 548.77kph. UK Speeders now make up three out of the top five fastest ever! This result combines with the other ISSA 2017 events to give the following overall World Series results for Team GB:

First and winner of *The Gladiator Ernest Holford Memorial Sword*:

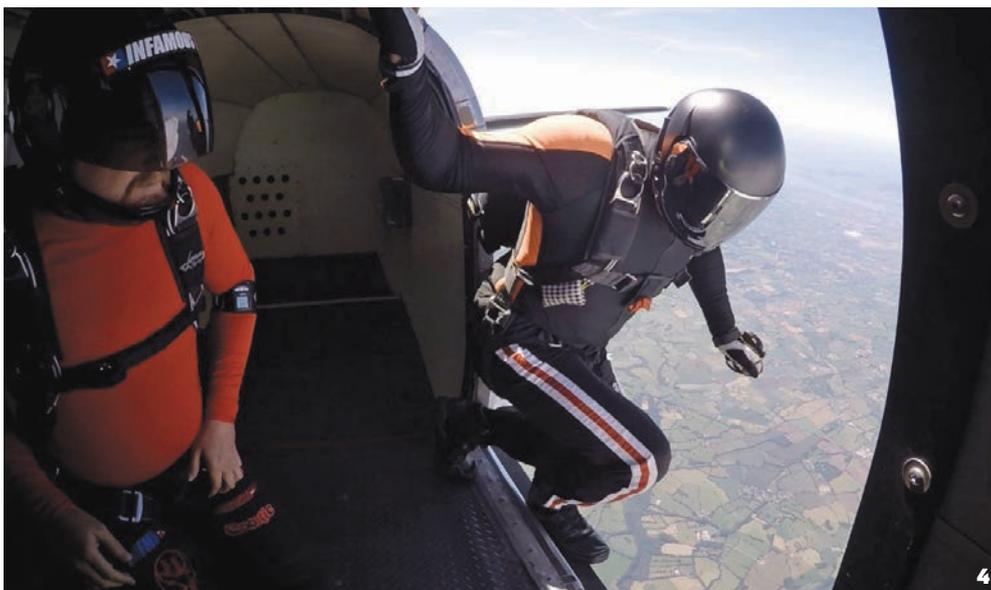
Max Hurd (UK)

Third: Mikey Lovemore (UK)

Fifth: James Parker (UK)

The magic number used to be 500kph. Five more people have gone over 500kph in the last year alone, so there are now 11 people who've exceeded that.





Henrik Raimer from Sweden is the only one to go over 600kph – that is Mach .49! We caught up with the current British Record Holder Max Hurd and asked him how to succeed in Speed:

“It’s simple really:

1. Jump out of plane.
2. Go fast.
3. Win medals.

SOUNDS SIMPLE...

“Well, not quite. There’s a bit more to it than that. I’ve always been intrigued by Speed skydiving ever since hearing about George Pilkington’s Speed Freaks competition in 1996 and would occasionally turn up at the odd roadshow run by Craig Poxon. However, my Speed skills weren’t great and I would usually flail a bit before recording a speed barely faster than I’d manage with a tandem drogue in tow. It all changed when I attended the Nationals in 2013 and 2014.

“Actually, that’s still not quite true. I was competing just for laughs and because I could get a T-shirt and join the party. I’d tried experimenting with Craig’s old ‘gimp suit’, but it didn’t help me go faster. I just looked creepy. For those in the know, it’s made from bright red PVC and fits super-tight. There are probably some pictures on Hib’s Facebook page somewhere, but I wouldn’t recommend searching them out. It’s not pretty.

“Anyway, who cares if I still wasn’t particularly successful? It was a good laugh, everyone was friendly and I enjoyed the challenge. I was obviously quite surprised, then, when I received a letter from the BPA inviting me to represent GB in Speed skydiving at the 2015 World Cup. I rang Mike Lovemore, the BPA Speed rep. “Is this a mistake or is someone playing a joke on me?” I asked. “Nope,” he replied, “You’ve qualified on your performance at the 2014 Nationals. Congratulations! Are you coming?” Well, I’ve never competed in anything at an International level. I thought “Why not, eh?”

GOT TO START SOMEWHERE

“I looked back over my results and saw that I’d made some improvement over the last couple of years, but my PB was still only 295kph. Not nearly fast enough if I was going to be hanging out with the big boys (and some of them are pretty big!), so I persuaded Mike to coach me a little. I immediately learned that my body position wasn’t anything like I thought it was. I was stable but not fast, so it was time to start learning how to ride the fine line between stability and speed. A few more training jumps later, and I was starting to understand what it was all about. My speeds improved, and I came fourth at the 2015 Nationals

‘I was stable but not fast, so it was time to start learning how to ride the fine line between stability and speed’

and raised my PB to 401kph. That was followed by another step forward at the World Cup when I set another new PB of 427kph. Although I only came 18th, it was a great way to end the season.

"I resolved to keep going in 2016 and put some more effort into my training too. I attended a couple of International Speed Skydiving Association (ISSA) World Series events as well. I improved further at one, but went backwards at the other. That was disappointing, but I learned a lot about the mental aspects of the discipline. It's not just the physical act of going fast; your head has to be in the right place too.

"At that year's Nationals, I went back to going fast – upping my PB to 476kph and claiming silver by a very narrow margin. However, Mikey Lovemore was ruling the game here in the UK. He had the British Record – 531.90kph – and was totally on fire! The final competition was the World Championships in the USA, so I went out there with just the aim of getting into the top 10 and maybe breaking 482kph. That's 300mph and, although it means nothing to the rest of the world, it's a bit of a milestone to us Brits.

"The first round in Chicago went quite well and I posted a speed of 502kph. Well, that wasn't quite how I'd planned it. Suddenly, I was the newest member of the 500 Club (the eighth) and leading the field. Oh boy, I was feeling the pressure! I managed to hold it together reasonably despite a couple of very poor rounds and ended up on the podium with a bronze medal, surprised, slightly bewildered and gutted for Mike (who I'd pushed into fourth). All things considered, not a bad year..."

500 NOT OUT

"Looking back, I realised I've never had a coherent training plan. This year, I've decided to focus totally on Speed skydiving and put all my other interests on the back-burner, at least until September. Go Skydive have generously sponsored my training jumps and it's been paying off so far. I now hold the British Record (551.77kph) and have just won the ISSA World Series Trophy too. Next up is the World Cup and European Championships in Saarlouis, closely followed by the British Nationals a couple of weeks later. I'm hoping to continue my success, but I don't think it's going to be easy. There are more people joining the 500 Club all the time and competition is fierce. Watch this space..."

CF GRAND PRIX

The Langar Canopy Formation Grand Prix had a fantastic turnout, with a whopping 10 teams turning up to bash canopies together. The only event to not complete all of their jumps was 4-way Rotations, but gold went to *Cunning Stunts* with 23 points over five rounds, ahead of *CRWsaders* who scored seven.

The 2-way Sequential event saw two Senior teams, three Intermediates and three Rookies. *Wize Prankers* were top

2 and 3 James Parker on exit, by Andy Torbet

4 Newest member of the '500 Club', Matthew Byrne exits as Mikey Lovemore looks on. By Andy Torbet

5 4-way Rotations champions Cuning Stunts by Gary Wainwright







6



8

of the Seniors with 41 points in six rounds, beating *Waffle Stack's* 29. In Intermediate, the *ScareCRWs* pipped *CRWsaders* by 32 points to 27, with *Double Trouble* winning bronze. Finally, *Cark* dominated Rookie with *Cark CRW* taking gold with 30 points to *Cark Corner's* 29. *Wrap It Before You Tap It* scored 20 points and took third place, but did have the best team name!

THANK YOU TO OUR JUDGES

We are in the middle of competition season. The BPA National Wingsuit Championships have already happened and teams are getting ready for BPA National Championships in 4-way and 8-way Formation Skydiving, Artistic events, Speed skydiving, Canopy Piloting, Canopy Formation, Vertical Formation Skydiving and 8-way Speed in August and September. Alongside them, the BPA Judges are getting ready to meet the competitors, evaluate their performances and award points, scores, times, speeds and distances.

In the UK, we have a lot more competitions during the year than many other countries – a fact of which other associations are envious. As a result, we have and will always need a sizeable number of Judges. The BPA Judges volunteer their time to help make competitions happen and we can't expect them to be available for every competition scheduled during the year. Ratings are awarded for all the disciplines in which

International FAI ratings can be gained:

- Accuracy Landing (AL)
- Freefall Style (S, currently no UK based competitions)
- Formation Skydiving (FS, covering 4-way, 8-way and VFS)
- Canopy Formation (CF)
- Artistic Events (AE, covering Freefly and Freestyle and Indoor Dynamic)
- Canopy Piloting (CP)
- Speed Skydiving (SP)
- Wingsuit (WS, covering Performance and Acrobatic)

In addition, we have an 8-way Speed FS rating for the 8-Way Speed competition held each year. Unfortunately, this isn't an international competition discipline so neither the competitors nor the Judges can progress beyond a National Gold in 8-way Speed. Depending on the discipline, competitors have more or less interaction with the Judges. Accuracy and CP Judges are clearly visible around the tuffet or pond, watching each competitor land. Speed and WS Performance competitors meet their Judges before and after each jump to pick up and drop off the Speed Measuring Devices and Flysights. In the disciplines judged on video, on the other hand, the videographer may see the Judges after each jump depending on where the video dubbing takes place but not necessarily. While the jumping and judging is going on, the competitors and Judges rarely interact – one group dirt-diving and jumping, the other sitting in front of screens with a stopwatch or scoring system. Particularly during the BPA National Championships in 4-way FS, the Judges rarely see daylight and that's

6 *Intermediate gold medalists and cover stars, the ScareCRWs.*
By Ming Chu

7 *A grinning Kel Spittle, by Ming Chu*

8 *Medal ceremony at the Langar CF Grand Prix, by Ming Chu*

9 *CP judges and Chris Lynch, by Rob Lloyd*

10 *FAI Judge Dougie Peacock, controlling the DZ from the beach*



7



9



10

with two panels of three Judges each watching and counting points for different teams at the same time. Judging usually takes longer than jumping, not least because the Judges may want to watch a video at a slower speed to try to see a grip to be able to award a point.

We are always on the look-out for people who want to join us in the judging team. BPA Judges are trained on-the-job at competitions by Senior Judges who have years of experience and who usually have an International Rating. During the competition, the trainee will learn the core principles of consistency, impartiality and rules governing competitions as a whole, as

well as applying the discipline-specific rules. It is usually easier to train as a Judge in a discipline you are familiar with; learning to recognise a correct formation during the 35 seconds of working time of a fast AAA 4-way team is a lot easier if you know what block 14 is meant to look like!

With the training in watching and evaluating performance, Judges can also be good sources of information on how to improve your score. Understanding why an exit formation is not getting a point (is a grip hidden from the camera?) can help the team work on how they present a particular exit to their videographer. During a competition may not be the best time,

but you can ask a Judge to review your training footage.

Both competitors and Judges are needed to make any competition happen (okay, a pilot and manifestor help...) and the BPA Judges have all invested their time to train and judge at BPA comps so that we can keep running BPA UKSLs and BPA GPs as well as the BPA National Championships. Along with the thanks from the competitors, they leave comps with the satisfaction of knowing that another group of jumpers have performed at their best, battled against each other and medals have been awarded to those with the highest scores. ●

Tash Higman

11 CP judging can be a soggy affair...

12 ...with a danger of gravel rash!
Both photos by Rob Lloyd



A WORD FROM THE JUDGES

Skydivers know better than anyone that what goes up must come down, but Judges get to see the highs and lows of comps too. Here, four Judges share their great memories, tough moments and why landing in the right place is a good idea...

Ruth Cooper – FAI FS Judge and National Accuracy Judge

"I have made some wonderful friends while judging, both in the UK and overseas. The hours can be harsh – the Hib 4-way Nationals have sometimes meant 16 hours in a hot room staring at a screen – and remember that we don't get to go to the bar until after we've finished judging. My latest finish was 2am! But it's always a buzz, and it's great to know that we are doing our bit to help make the competition happen and getting the most accurate scores we can out to the competitors as quickly as possible.

"My hardest competition was CISM (the Military Games) in Switzerland, judging teams including *Hayabusa* with a stopwatch, paper and pen and no freeze-frame. I love the technology that we have now because it has enabled us to keep up with the speed at which teams now fly."

Georgina Woof – National CP Judge

"I judge because I wanted to help and support my local dropzone and jumpers at Dunkeswell. There is always an entertaining time changing the markers in the pond and trying to find a new volunteer to go in the water can sometimes be challenging! I love judging CP and the visual spectacle that it brings."

Liz Warner – FAI AE, FS and CP Judge, National Accuracy, AE, CF, CP, FS and WS Judge

"I started jumping in 1993 and I had competed in several competitions abroad by 2000, but I was relying on experienced jumpers to tell me the rules. So, in 2001, I decided to learn how to judge to get a better understanding. I judge now because I enjoy it, I get to interact with all sorts of competitors and I get to travel. It has also increased my understanding of skydiving and gives me the knowledge of different disciplines. I have made new friends and been fortunate to travel worldwide.

"My best judging experience was being selected to judge at the World Air Games in Dubai. It was a good competition to meet

people in all air sports who are at the top of their game and seeing the hot air balloons do a mass take-off in the morning over the Palm was amazing.

"My worst judging experience was when I was Chief Judge at a competition, had a falling out with the DZ owner and CCI and thought about giving up judging. I had the support of my fellow Judges that weekend and, because of them, I am still judging."

Dougie Peacock – FAI Style and Accuracy Judge, National WS Judge

"I judge to encourage young jumpers in the Classics and also because I wish to give back to the sport which has given me so much. 'Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life' has certainly applied to me.

"Probably the most embarrassing moment was way back in the 1970s at Lippspringe when, as National Coach and Chief Judge, I ground-spotted an entire 8-way load eight kilometres off the DZ into the middle of town, resulting in some pretty scathing remarks from CCI Mac McQueen."



Skydive

AUSTRALIA



SKYDIVING INSTRUCTORS WANTED

Skydive Australia is looking to hire qualified Tandem Instructors for its 18 DZs across Australia.

- Seasonal and full time work available
- AFF ratings desirable but not essential
- Preferably Sigma rated
- Must have handcam experience
- Possibility of exploring more long term options
- 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/CAREERS](https://www.skydive.com.au/careers)

SUMMER
+
SKYDIVE
=
SIFE



Picture: Wolfgang Lienbacher



SIFE

www.sife.at

delivery time 4-8 weeks

handmade in Austria

rush service 2 weeks

1

HOW TO SURVIVE

A CANOPY COLLISION

Canopy collisions kill. Here's how to give yourself
the best chance of survival

WORDS: STEVE SMITH, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM JULES MCCONNEL, GREG JACK AND LIZ ASHLEY

CANOPY COLLISIONS

As skydivers, we are taught how to avoid canopy collisions and dealing with them is built into almost every aspect of skydiving. However, collisions remain one of the most likely ways to die in the sport. Part of the problem is that the emergency procedures are not common sense or known by everybody and you can only learn them on the ground. All canopy collision emergencies can be broken down into three categories with specific procedures:

1) Entanglement. If both jumpers and containers are clear of fabric and lines but canopies are stuck together, it is an entanglement.

2) Wrap. If there is any fabric or lines on either person or their container, it is a wrap.

3) Low Altitude Emergency. If you are below 1,000ft, you will not have time to identify anything else and your options are limited.

What to expect

Canopy collisions can be violent. They can be a low- or high-speed emergency and can quickly change. When canopies wrap or entangle with something or somebody, they often partially collapse and continue trying to fly in different directions to each other. This asymmetry often results in spinning and bucking, with the pilots getting flung around and possibly constricted. Communication with full-face helmets and visors may be very difficult.

If a collision is imminent and unavoidable, it is important to protect your emergency handles and body while not going through the other canopy's lines. A position to adopt is to turn your body side-on to the collision with your left arm forward across your body to protect the emergency handles. Scissor your legs to prevent passing through the other canopy's lines.

Many canopy collisions require no action. Canopies can collide with each other or a person and separate themselves quickly with no input from the pilots. If you have a canopy collision, you need to identify the emergency before taking action.

There is no situation where immediately cutting away is advised.

After a collision, your first priority is altitude awareness and emergency identification. If you have just deployed, then you are probably still at around 3,000ft under normal circumstances. Opening heights are set to allow for this type of emergency, so you have time. **DO NOT CUT AWAY YET.**

Communication

When involved in a wrap or entanglement, the first thing to do is to communicate with each other. You need to communicate the altitude, the problem and the plan of action.



2

Always use positive commands. "Don't cut away!" or "I'm going to cut away!" is the wrong thing to say; the other jumper might only hear the last part of this phrase and jettison their canopy.

If someone has a parachute wrapped around them, they may not be able to read their altimeter. When you are totally engulfed in nylon, it is very reassuring to hear the altitude called out regularly. It also helps to hear that your parachute is okay and "If you crawl to the left, it will come loose" or some similar instruction is much more useful.

If you are the one who is wrapped in a parachute, you should communicate that you are working on the situation.

Speak to the other jumper at regular intervals to keep them informed.

Entanglement procedures

When both canopies are entangled but the jumpers are clear, it will be a high-speed emergency that requires both jumpers to cut away. Allow the upper jumper the opportunity to cut away first because a cutaway from below another jumper increases the risk of lines or risers getting caught on them. If it is uncertain who the upper jumper is but you are sure your cutaway will not hit the other jumper, then the order is not critical. Stagger the cutaways so both jumpers have clear space to deploy their reserves.

1 Inside an over-friendly CF dock, by Jim Scott

2 Keiron Hayes took this photo with a backward-facing camera on a carefully planned jump. You don't ever want to be surprised by seeing this perspective flying head-on! Note the lack of chest strap – this is sometimes done by experienced canopy pilots, but a belly strap has been attached as well



Wrap procedures

If you have fabric or lines on you, then you are the upper jumper in a wrap. **DO NOT CUT AWAY.** If you are the lower jumper in a wrap, your priority is helping the upper jumper because the upper jumper is in the most dangerous position. The lower jumper does not cut away until the upper jumper tells you to cut away, you both reach your lowest safe cutaway height or the upper jumper stops responding.

If you are the upper jumper, your canopy is still trying to fly. You need to keep your canopy until you have a better option, so your aim is to work your body and

container free of all fabric and lines. Protect your handles from an unplanned cutaway or reserve deployment. Follow your risers up and out of the fabric. If you cannot get clear, releasing the lower jumper's weight may help so instruct them to cut away. You now need to clear or contain (and land with) the fabric. Never cut away when you have lines or fabric on you or your container.

Low altitude procedures

Low altitude emergencies are particularly dangerous because there is probably no time to assess, communicate or cut away. Below 1,000ft, the only concern is having a survivable descent rate. **DO NOT CUT AWAY.** The options are limited to:

- a) Keep what you have if it seems like it will be survivable.
- b) Add more fabric by pulling your reserve handle.

If you can control the wrap or entanglement, you could keep things as they are, make no large inputs and prepare for a PLF. If you cannot control your rate of descent, then pulling your reserve handle (only) at once may help. Once your reserve is deployed, you should make every effort to minimise your descent rate and prepare for a PLF.

A wrap or entanglement can become a Low Altitude Emergency if not dealt with in time or if the collision happens in the landing pattern.

3 Entanglement: Both jumpers are clear of fabric and lines. It's uncertain who is the upper jumper

4 Wrap: View from lower jumper

5 Wrap: View from upper jumper

6 Upper jumper in wrap: Unsafe to cut away – clear or contain lines and fabric first



Prevention is better than cure

The best way to survive a canopy collision is to not have one. This starts on the ground before the jump by planning a sensible and safe dive, and continues until you are back on the ground afterwards. Here are some steps you should take:

- 1.** Plan adequate exit separation and a sensible exit order. If the spot is getting long, you have the options of opening slightly higher (only if you are last out), walking or a second pass.
- 2.** Plan a break-off that allows enough time to gain horizontal separation from the people you are jumping with. A bigger group will normally need a higher break-off.
- 3.** Take care on deployment. Use a big wave-off to clearly signal your intention to pull and have your eyes on a swivel throughout the opening.

- 4.** Be prepared on opening and be ready to make a rear riser input if needed. If you are unsure about which way you should turn to avoid a collision, choose right. It is good practice to then check the canopies on either side of you, do a visual count of your whole group and look up and down the jump run to identify the groups on either side of you.
- 5.** ALL jumpers on the lift should know the run-in direction, not just the jumpmaster. Everybody then knows the likely direction of the groups on either side of them and can avoid flying up the jump run until after the next group are open.
- 6.** Fly a predictable pattern and maintain your awareness by constantly scanning for others. Be a considerate canopy pilot; your priority is placing yourself in the correct position for the landing order.
- 7.** Skydiving landing areas are the most congested airspaces in aeronautics and

this congestion dramatically increases the chance of collisions. Dropzones will typically set a preferred landing circuit to help with predictability and to minimise the chance of collisions. Know the landing requirements of your DZ.

Collisions in the landing phase are typically caused by target fixation and a loss of awareness of others. Common scenarios include:

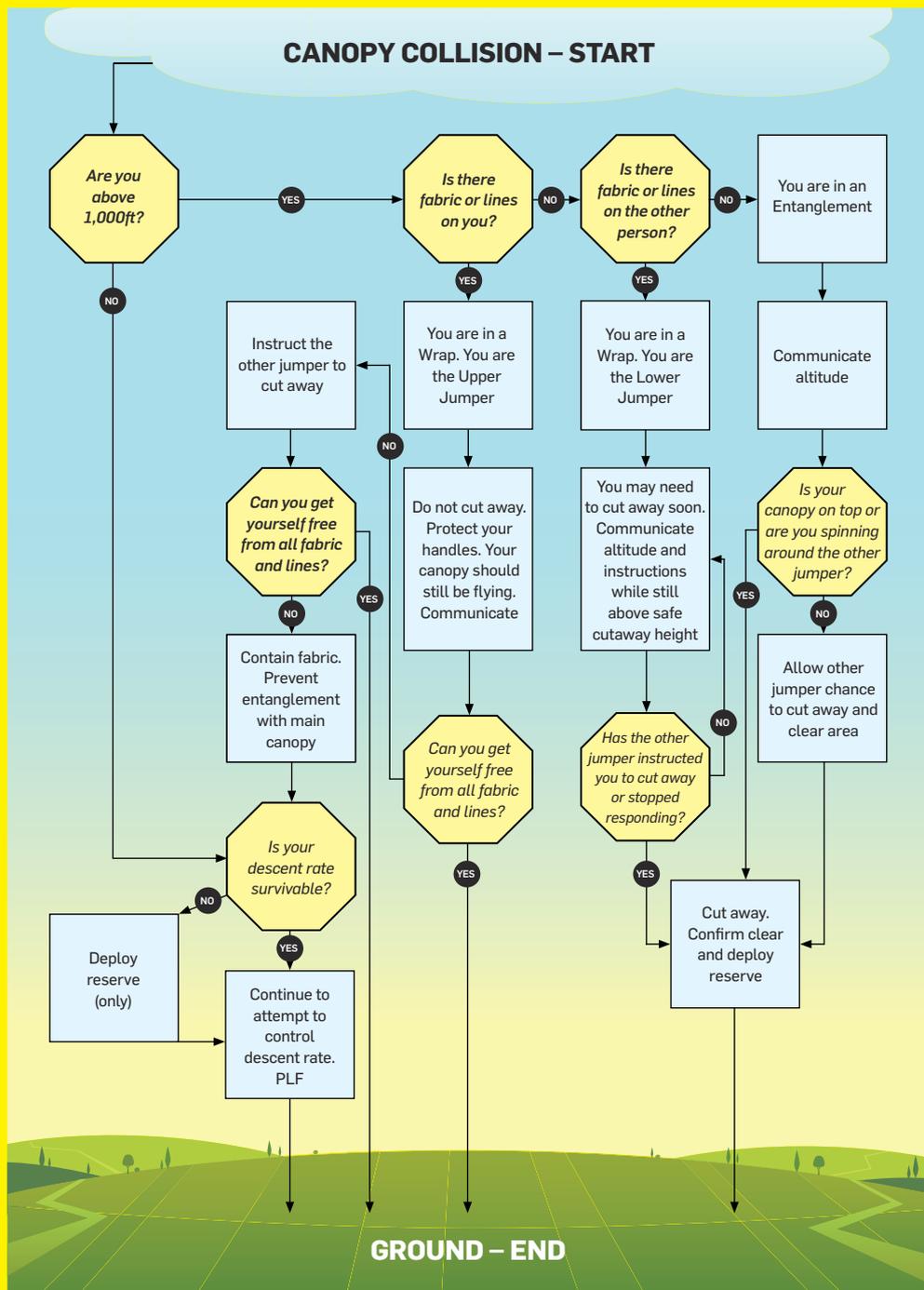
- 1.** Two canopies on the same level aiming for the same area on converging headings.
- 2.** Following a canopy which sashays or sits on brakes on finals to avoid overshooting.
- 3.** A high-performance landing intersecting with a lower canopy's path.

Maintain awareness by constantly scanning for others. Give way to

7 The jumper flying the neon canopy had landed safely, but the jump isn't over until you're back in the hangar. The jumper flying the blue canopy was distracted by another canopy and flew into the still-inflated neon canopy. Luckily there were no injuries. By Gary Wainwright

COLLISION DECISIONS

Disclaimer: This flow chart is opinion, not fact. You could follow it to the letter and still die – if you want a guarantee, buy a toaster. Your Chief Instructor may have a different opinion, so why not ask them?



lower canopies and fly predictably. A low-altitude collision emergency has severely limited response options, so avoidance is the only safe path.

Spread the word

Knowing canopy collision emergency procedures is great, but it is not enough. There will be at least two people involved and your highest probability collision is with one of your close jumping friends. Help educate them like both your lives might depend on it.

For a full 10-page guide including advice on communication, RSLs and hook knives, go to rotorout.com.au/download. ●

Steve Smith has been skydiving for more than 15 years. He is a multiple 4-way and 8-way Australian National Champion and is a current member of the Australian team Rotor Out.



“While techniques and principles for dealing with wraps and entanglements are the same for both CF and for a post-freefall canopy collision, in CF they usually form at slow relative closing speeds and altitudes where we have several minutes to deal with it. Post-freefall collisions will be unexpected,

likely higher speed, with most jumpers wearing full-face helmets (making it very difficult to communicate) and at low altitude, so the time available to deal with it will be significantly reduced. The best option is *always* prevention; by paying constant attention to your

surrounding airspace while under canopy all the way to landing, collisions can be avoided. Also, don't panic just because another canopy is close. Panic leads to irrational manoeuvres which can put you in even more danger in a blind effort to keep away.”
Gav McLeod, BPA CF Rep

MAKING A RECORD

The inside story from the Head Up European Record, with a bit of upside down as well...

WORDS: KARIM SHOKRAEE
PHOTOS: GUSTAVO CABANA

Editorial note: The original draft of this article, while hilarious, could not be printed in a respectable title which enjoys a discerning audience of good repute – or even in the Mag – as it stood. Therefore, some of the less delicate phrases have been carefully amended so they are fit for publication and we have endeavoured to achieve this as unobtrusively as possible.

I was fortunate enough to have been a participant on the recent Head Up European Record 2017. To say it was an incredible experience would be an understatement.

My first record attempt was the UK Head Up Record in 2015. I spent two days warming up and training the base successfully but, when crunch time came, I was cut – and rightly so – because I wasn't doing my job. In 2016, I was part of an attempt at breaking the UK Head Down Record where, amid poor weather, we had seven attempts but still weren't able to make it. My performance was poor – I was overfloating, I made heavy docks, I was slow...

There was a common theme: my 'head game' was failing me and I was overthinking the jump each time. All I needed to do was my job, which I had done countless times before, but I was unable to do it under pressure for some reason. I had no idea why.

THE WEAK LINK

It was something that concerned me going into the Euro Head Up tryouts in April 2017. My feedback came through and I was told that I performed well, but that I needed to work on my mental game. There were numerous participants but the *Fly Warriors*, with their experience, had identified my weakness. *Darn it all to heck.*

At their suggestion, I chose to go to the tryouts in May 2017 to work on this. My performance improved, but I was still unsure that I would get a slot on the record attempts. I really wanted to take part in the record and, in the run up to it, I thought about the experience so far, how much I had learned and how much

I had gained. I realised it didn't matter if I was on the record or not. I had gained so much already and that was enough.

I had the opportunity to take part in the warm-up day on June 20 and I was put near the back of the Twin Otter. A diving slot? Oh, bother. I hadn't done this in more than a year. Although I had flown a floating slot plenty of times, I had rarely dived. I won't beat around the bush; I was awful for the first two or three jumps.

However, I started getting it. It was great to have Pete at the back of the plane with me on the ride to altitude to help me relax. We raced to the base each time and even managed a cheeky 2-way out of the door on the last warm-up jump, which was probably my second most memorable jumping

moment of the last year. I was fortunate enough to have got to grips with a long dive; little did I know how handy those few jumps would be...

On the evening of the warm-up day, they announced the participants in the record numbered from one to 45. As they went through the list, I smiled each time a friend's name was called. Nimmo got closer to the end and I realised that my name hadn't come up. I was okay with it. Then the words came: "...and last but not least... slot 45... Karim."

A big grin appeared on my face.



'I knew I had a job to do and it was simply up to me to do it. I had been trusted by the organisers to fly my position and I was determined not to let them down. Easy, right?'



UP, DOWN, FLYING AROUND...

When the record attempts came the next day, I was sleep-deprived and hot. The Spanish skies had graced us with glorious blue. I knew I had a job to do and it was simply up to me to do it. I had been trusted by the organisers to fly my position and I was determined not to let them down. Easy, right?

On the first jump as I left the plane, I looked for the base. They were specks of dust between me and the ground, so



‘My foot caught the bench, I fell onto the door and flipped uncontrollably for a second or two with no idea where the base was’





I had a long way to go – time to put the afterburners on. On the subsequent jumps, there were numerous changes and I didn't have a chance to dock until jump 10. I committed a particularly obvious and egregious error on one jump – I didn't brake hard enough and ended up five metres below the base – and it was pointed out at the debrief.

"Sorry..." was the only response I could muster.

"I don't care if you're emphatically sorry!"

"I mean, it won't happen again."

"That's what I jolly well want to hear."

It didn't happen again. The person I was meant to be taking a grip on was changed three times. But, each time, I was there waiting in slot and ready to do my job. Unable to find someone with a strong enough left-handed grip to sting the pod, the call came:

"Have you been told about the changes? You're going to dock onto the pod now."

"No problem. I can do it."

"Most indubitably right, you can."

FIFTEENTH TIME'S THE CHARM

I felt so relaxed and calm about it, completely certain that I could perform my job successfully. I remembered what I had learned on all the warm-ups – taking

the grip is confirmation that you can fly your slot and I knew I could fly my slot. I had done it 14 times already, after all.

I went to speak to Anthony, who had put his all into this record but was now struggling. He had a bit of a rollercoaster of a ride – cut, then reintroduced in a harder slot – so I said to him: "Don't put it all on the line. I know this means so much to you but, if you keep thinking about how much you put into this, you are only going to fail. You won't be able to do your job. Put it all aside and just focus on doing your job." The words were those that I had said to myself and I think were for me as much as him.

Then the record happened. My foot caught the bench, I fell onto the door and flipped uncontrollably for a second or two with no idea where the base was. I screamed "FFFUUUDDGGGEEE!" and I thought it was all over. With such a long dive, I needed an efficient exit and this was anything but... and then I caught sight of the base, went into the hardest, fastest dive I had ever done and shouted "PETER HUTCHINSON!" I'm not sure why – maybe because he had beaten me on every dive on the warm-up days – but the boy was fast and I needed some of his speed right now! I managed to slam the brakes on in time to get on level at an appropriate speed and give me plenty of time to do my job.

THE MOMENT OF TRUTH

The atmosphere was one of quiet excitement in the hangar, and then the debrief came. We had successfully built a 43-way Head Up formation in the skies above Empuriabrava. The official 43-way had an unofficial empty 44th slot, because Dany Henschen from Switzerland was on the camps and would have been on the record but was sadly killed in an accident in the Swiss Alps. The FAI will list the record as 43+1.

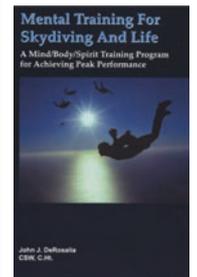
There were so many hugs and high-fives that they all blurred into one. It was an amazing experience to share with a great team of people. There was no aggro, no bitching, no cliques.

It wasn't so much about the actual record – that was the cherry on the cake – but the journey and what I will take away from it are the foundations of what this incredible experience was based upon. To get over the mental block I had – to stop worrying, to breathe, to just go with the flow and do my job – are things that will not only strengthen my skydiving but also help in life because these basic principles are universally applicable.

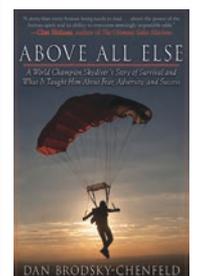
Many thanks to the *Fly Warriors*, the organisers, the team captains, all the participants and all the coaches who have taught me the skills to be able to take part in this event. Skydiving has made me a better, more capable person and I hope I have been able to describe just one way in which the sport can expose, impact and help deal with problems and obstacles we come across in our everyday lives. ●

RECOMMENDED READING

Mental Training for Skydiving and Life by John DeRosalia (Skymind, 2001)



Above All Else by Dan Brodsky-Chenfeld (Skyhorse Publishing, 2011)



 **VIDEO: [TINYURL.COM/YCVW8DYU](https://www.tinyurl.com/YCVW8DYU)**
Watch the new Head Up European Record happen here!



CAMERA

*Camera position –
under the formation,
looking back up*



FOR

FLYING

'Pics or didn't happen' applies in the sky too, so here's how to get those all-important perfect shots in VFS

WORDS: DAN GUEST, OMNI VFS

Capturing judgeable points in VFS can be one of the more challenging cameraflying disciplines due to the speeds involved and the visibility of all the grips

in points and blocks. It's generally accepted that the best way to do this is to film from a head down position below the formation and looking back up at it from as directly below as you can get. It would be possible to achieve this from a head up position as well, but head down allows for quicker movement to film from a different angle depending on the point and makes the exit much easier to stay ahead of the formation.

Equipment

Flying head down with your chin on your chest and looking down at your feet is not a natural position. To help with this, we can angle the camera downwards to give our head less distance to go. How much of an angle comes down to personal preference but, as a general rule, the greater the angle, the less you need to look down. However, if you go too far, your head will be looking straight ahead and you won't be able to see the formation clearly. This makes it hard to comfortably see where you want to be for the best view of capturing the specific point. Approximately 45° would be a good starting point for a good balance of both.

An all-round suit with good range is a plus, but nothing too tight – the fall rate can change from jump to jump depending on the draw and the chin-on-the-chest flying position can make it difficult to get a good slowfall. For your container, all the general freefly-friendly rules apply but, since you're flying below the team, any kind of premature opening would be even worse than normal. Keep an eye on the condition of your closing loop and ensure it is as tight as possible. A full pin/handle check before climb out should always be done.

One other thing you'll quickly learn all about is the constant battle with looking up at the sun! Be sure to bring shades or tinted goggles. At the 2016 World Meet, they had an intentional



**PART TWO
OF TWO**

For more, check
out *Skydive*
June 2017!



VFS

standing down of VFS in the middle of the day when the sun is at its highest to make the jumps judgeable.

Exit

For the exit, you will want to be immediately in front of the formation and the best place to do that is from the front float position because you're there already. The idea behind it is that as you leave with your head into the wind, you accelerate and stay in front of them relative to the wind. This translates into being below them as you come down the hill. As you climb out, ensure that you're rotating through the centre of the door so you don't rub your rig against the edge of the door and disturb anything as you battle the wind. The team needs a nice clear exit count because the timing is very important. If you leave too early, you will end up head level with the group where it's difficult to see the grips due to

heads getting in the way. Go slightly too late and you end up joining them in what isn't a comfortable body position to be able to accelerate and stay ahead.

Similarly to FS, a beginner team tends to hold the first point for a few seconds and let it settle. That can be forgiving of a bad exit by the cameraflyer and allows for more time to get where you want to be. As the team gets quicker breaking the first point, you have to start paying more attention to specific exits. For example, exits with outface flyers such as the 15 or N tend to come out quite flat. You will need to get higher in the door compared to an all head down in-face exit like the A, which rolls over much faster.

Freefall

Being at the dirt dive is crucial if you want to film a bust-free round in VFS. Even if you're directly below and looking up at the exact centre of the formation,

you can still miss grips because of the pesky legs from sitflyers! They love to transition down to a sit and put their legs directly in front of a hand grip, and that can be six feet higher due to the 3D nature of VFS. As a result of this, each point has a specific place that you want to be. Getting to the right place doesn't mean you can then relax for the rest of the jump – it won't be the right place for long.

You will need to know what is coming next before the team start to move so you can be ready to get where you need to be. Typically, you'll find you need to be behind or near the primary head down flyer because a head is much less of an obstacle than legs. It is not uncommon, though, to need to make quick 90° or 180° carves while a block is turning to ensure you're in the right place for the close or to need to speed up or slow down due to differences in speeds between some points. Blocks with alternating head up such as 4, 17 and 18 tend to naturally speed up, while rotating blocks such as 1, 3 or 13 can cause the team to lay out slightly and slow down. This is where we see the true value of being in a head down position to allow ourselves to make these quick adjustments.

Break-off

A safe break-off in VFS is a little bit more of team event than in flat skydiving. The cameraflyer can't slow down as soon as it's break-off time because you'll quickly find yourself coming through the centre of the team if they've not left yet. From inside the formation, everyone needs to do a 180° turn to check behind them and that the cameraflyer is not out of position before they move away. While driving forwards, it's important to not have any acceleration downwards towards where the cameraflyer should be. This is easily done if you begin to accelerate before you begin to move laterally. As the cameraflyer, I always stay head down until I have seen everyone move away before rolling onto my back to come up through the centre and then over to my belly to slow down and deploy.

Many people think cameraflying looks a bit dull because you just sit in one place for 40 seconds, but I can assure you that's not the case with VFS. In order to film a clean round and with every draw being different, the challenging flying certainly keeps it fun after a few seasons behind the lens!

To learn more about flying VFS and camera for VFS, come along to the VFS Roadshow at Dunkeswell on August 12-13. The event will take the form of a trial competition for an Intermediate VFS category and will have free coaching and camera slots subsidised by the BPA. It's the perfect opportunity to come along as a team or on your own, try VFS for the first time and show your support for the discipline. ●



TOP TIPS FROM THE JUDGES

1) A lot of what goes for 4-way FS competition goes for VFS too. Just because the team can see they've got the grips doesn't mean the camera can too, so you need to make sure all the points AND inters are clearly visible to the camera. It seems to be more of an issue with VFS than 4-way FS because of the '3D element' to it.

2) For the less experienced teams, sometimes it's better to slow things down a little rather than rush for points.

3) Please be kind to the judges and don't wear the same colour gloves as jumpsuits or grips – why make it harder for us?!

4) If you are competing, you should have read the rules. If you're not sure where to find them, do ask us. If you're not sure of a rule, please ask us before the competition starts.

5) If you have a question about a score, come and find us as soon as possible.

6) All the judges are happy to provide feedback on jumps. Competitors are welcome to get in touch with us and we can have a look at material online in between comps if it helps.

We are at the competitions for the competitors and are always happy to help if we can. Good luck to everyone competing this season!

Ruth Cooper, FAI VFS Judge

HELP OUT THE CAMERA GUY!

It's the team's responsibility to ensure that they always present the best possible picture to the cameraflyer. This may mean compromising your finely honed tunnel positions or flying something for a little longer to make the grips visible in some cases. This is particularly important on exit, where you may want to push the grips out wide to make them visible and pause for a split second to ensure you have a good shot before moving on.

Head down grips should typically be taken near the hands because it is very easy for a head to get in the way of a high arm grip. Foot grips on points such as C and K should always be taken with the back of the hand presented down towards the cameraflyer. As with a lot of disciplines, the top teams are now starting to challenge the judge's ability to judge at the allowed speed of 70% and especially so where transitions are concerned. There has been a lot of controversy in recent years about the interpretation of 'head up' and how flying on the relative wind affects compliance with the rules. The best advice at the moment for fast points like D, Q or 16 is to really punch down the sitfly and ensure you show it clearly to the camera. Also, where required for block moves, ensure that you have clearly let go of the grip before starting your transition.

Greg Lucas, Omni

Exit position

BPA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

AUGUST

19-21 BPA NATIONALS (4-WAY)

26-28 BPA NATIONALS (8-WAY,
ARTISTICS AND SPEED)

TEAM TRAINING AVAILABLE!
CONTACT US AT INFO@SKYDIVING.CO.UK

FS AND FF EVENTS ALL YEAR LONG.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENTS AND INFO.


SKYDIVE
HIBALDSTOW

Hibaldstow, UK
Tel. +44 113 250 5600
info@skydiving.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk



Skydive Hibaldstow, Skydive Spain and Skydive Algarve
are part of the Swallow Group dropzones.
skydiving.co.uk • skydivespain.com • skydivealgarve.com

JUMP IN THE SUN



**FROM UP TO 15,000 FEET | TEAM TRAINING AVAILABLE
FLEET OF FAST DORNIER G92 AIRCRAFT
BUILT AND RUN ON PASSION**

LOOKING TO ORGANISE AN EVENT? CONTACT US.



Sevilla, Spain
Tel. +34 955 76 60 56
info@skydivespain.com
www.skydivespain.com



Alvor, Portugal
Tel. +351 282 496 581
info@skydivealgarve.com
www.skydivealgarve.com



Skydive Hibaldstow, Skydive Spain and Skydive Algarve are part of the Swallow Group dropzones.
skydiving.co.uk • skydivespain.com • skydivealgarve.com



Hibaldstow, UK
Tel. +44 113 250 5600
info@skydiving.co.uk
www.skydiving.co.uk

**HOST OF THE UPCOMING
BPA SKYDIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS. OPEN TO EVERY NATIONALITY!**
AUGUST
19-21 BPA NATIONALS (4-WAY)
26-28 BPA NATIONALS (8-WAY, ARTISTICS AND SPEED)

COMPLETE 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 V
\$7670 | Icon A
\$7160 | Icon
\$6795 | Infinity
\$6849 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Javelin Legacy
\$6895 | Javelin Odyssey
\$7095 | Mirage G4
\$6795 | Peregrine Glide
\$6725 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Peregrine Triton
\$6337 | Vector V3
\$6595 | Voodoo Curv 2.0
\$7299 | Vortex
\$6500 |
|  |  |  | |
| Javelin Aurora
Special Wingsuit
Rig Package

Starts @ \$7440 | Wings
\$6150 | Wings Vision
\$6230 | |



Plus get a FREE Gear Bag and earn SuperStars Rewards Points.

Package pricing changes if selecting different canopies or AAD.

1-770-445-4000



-  chutingstar.com/skydive
-  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



MIND GAMES

Half of a jump happens in the air, but the rest happens in your head.
How do you get that bit right?

WORDS AND PHOTOS: SIMON BRENTFORD, NFTO

Let me tell you about how I was feeling as I sat in Hibaldstow's Dornier G92 one UK Nationals. I'd done lots of training, the feel-good jumps were very feel-good and the first point out of the door was an easy one, but I was totally flustered and nervous. Of course, I didn't let the team know how I was feeling. It was all smiles as I put my hand in at 8,000ft, but underneath was a lack of confidence. When I tracked off, the jump had gone surprisingly well.

What does that say? Is feeling nervous okay and I perform well under stress, or was it simply chance?

Looking back at that competition and – if I am honest – a few others as well, I could easily have done better. Being mentally prepared about competition is important; it leads to confidence, which leads to a place of high concentration and performance – the proverbial 'zone'. Eliminating chance and believing in yourself helps you to see the wider picture: the flow of

the skydive, keys, grips, where the centre of the formation should be, stopping bad habits and remembering all the points.

Above all, mental preparation helps us to enjoy competition. If we are dreading every round, why are we bothering to do it at all?

SETTING YOUR PLAN

So let's start with your team training plan and calendar. Ideally, the team wants to be performing at its peak during the practice day of the competition.

1 Team bonding on Vana's 7,000th skydive

PREPARING FOR COMPS

That doesn't mean suddenly scoring two points better than average; it means reaching a place where your exits, randoms and blocks are consistent.

Scenario: Team ABC is a single-A category team with a one-week camp before Nationals and four weekends of training planned. I would make a decision about which exits to take to the competition by the end of the main training camp and then consolidate on them during the last two weekends of team training. Spend some regular time looking at good exits either from your team or some world champions to aspire to. There's plenty to be found on YouTube.

One of the most common issues we have is forgetting the dive. All it takes is for one person to miss a point and the rhythm of the dive goes to pot. That brain fart may only last two seconds, but the cost to the rhythm could cost many more points. If this happens regularly, it's going to dent your points average. Therefore, I recommend working with your cameraflyer to create a best-of video and watching it a couple of times a week. It's also a great idea for a teammate to email over a dummy eight or 10 round competition for you to spend 10 minutes walking through in your mind after work.

Visualisation creates a resilient and elastic mind that's ready for every round of competition. And it's free!

BAD WEATHER DAYS

We've all been there, stuck on a dropzone with no book, bad internet and everyone slowly winding each other up. Do this every time the team meets and we surreptitiously get irritated by each other. It's important to recognise this and have a plan in advance. Play board games, do a bit of fitness training, visit your local farm café or find a bowling alley. Knowing when to take yourself off the manifest board can improve the

2



3



mental well-being of everybody and make any subsequent skydives 10 times better.

Scenario: The winds are at the limits, the clouds are thick and we may find ourselves having to go around looking for a gap to jump through. Oh yes, and it's absolutely freezing. It's precisely these tricky conditions that warrant a mention to the rest of the team along the lines of "This is what we can easily expect to happen on Round 1". Learning how to perform in these conditions can give a great advantage.

As Dan BC said: "Feel comfortable with your uncomfortableness."

EXIT FEAR

Having 'Exit fear', as I call it, is horrible. It does nothing for confidence and it's certainly not conducive to guaranteeing a great performance. It's better to choose a formation you know you can launch and



make a speedy grip switch rather than blowing it to pieces and losing half your working time.

TEAM TROUBLES

The whole subject of team quarrels, tiffs and bickering is an article in its own right. Needless to say, having a rock meeting can help a lot if the team is having major problems. Rock meetings are where we all get our say without being interrupted while holding 'the rock'. It can be anything if you don't have a rock handy, just as long as it's something. Being prepared to publicly accept that you're wrong (even if you don't think you are) can do a lot towards repairing team relationships. Stopping that disagreement from festering and turning into something worse is an important part of mental preparation and performance in the sky.

Likewise, spending social time together away from the dropzone generates unity and mutual confidence. Paradoxically, spending time apart is good too. It's all about getting a balance where we take enjoyment in each other's company without being smothered either.

LAST WEEKEND/ PRACTICE DAY

Let's face it; team training is intense, fast-paced and expensive. Dirt dives are often done with minutes to spare before kitting-up and can often lack the detail and repetition needed for peak performance. In the final days before a major competition, it's a good idea to give extra time to your dirt dives. The emphasis is really about learning each skydive. If there is a long wait between each jump, walk the dirt dive regularly. It can't hurt.

Good mental preparation recognises that you are not going to fix any major issues in those final days, nor are you going to suddenly and miraculously raise your average. It's all about feeling ready personally and as a team. Pick maybe three easy jumps for your practice day and finish early too.

THE CLIMB TO ALTITUDE

Visualisation on Round 1 begins during take-off. I run through the points quickly for a few pages and this gets repeated at 4,000ft and 7,000ft. I'm thinking about the points, the keys and cross-referencing.

I can remember one of my early coaches saying to me: "When you put your hands in, you should be able to look into everyone's eyes and feel that they're going to give 100% and so are you." I recollect secretly thinking this sounded silly. However, I was wrong. Smiling and

2 *Launching a B-
Stairstep Diamond*

3 *About to
turn Block 14,
Bipole-bipole*

PREPARING FOR COMPS

trusting in your teammates makes them confident and gets them in the zone.

After the handshake, I finish with a 'slow-mo' in my mind of what the exit should look like and then a single page. This applies whether you are a performer or a cameraflyer. At this stage, I'm waiting for the red light to come on, I've done my gear checks and I'm genuinely ready. I try to ignore the other teams on board and concentrate my energy solely on my teammates and the dive at hand.

SCOREBOARDING

There are strong arguments for either viewing or ignoring the scoreboard round by round during a competition. For some teams, it can inspire them to focus and perform better. For others, it can haunt them along the lines of "We just need to go a bit faster and score one extra point on the next round", with the result being a scrappy and untidy round. Knowing what best suits you or your team is a simple matter of doing some warm-up UKSL competitions beforehand.

DEALING WITH PROBLEMS

Sometimes it doesn't matter how much mental preparation you have done, but you still inexplicably find your heart

beating and a sense of dread unfolding before you. Don't worry – the best of us have had this and it can be dealt with.

Solution No. 1 – Breathing exercises: I'm a BASE jumper as well as a skydiver and I've stood on the edge with a sense of mortal fear. My fix is to breathe in through my nose and out through my mouth ten times. I don't know why it works, but I find it calming in times of stress.

Solution No. 2 – Mantras: It's what old men do in your local pub and it's all about telling yourself you can do it. I actually go so far as physically saying my mantra inside my helmet. As a cameraman, that might be something like "Go early, watch Outside Centre". As a performer, it might be "Present chest to the wind, A-14". Sounds daft, but give it a go.

It's rare that every round of your competition is going to be 100% and some rounds will be better than others. It's okay to talk about the dive among yourselves in the landing area and even watch the video (after it's been submitted for judging, of course). But, after that, you should set the round aside as something unalterable. Correspondingly, if the dive went well, allow it to add to your confidence but recognise that it's not going to create any complacency either.

Aside from feeling nervous, there are many other things which can go wrong and upset that fine mental balance during competition – bad weather, landing off, a bad round, a funnelled exit, being unfairly judged in your opinion, your bootie elastic snapping (this happened to me on Round 1 at the World Championships last year) and so on. All of these can be compartmentalised and separated from the rest of the competition rounds.

A mentally prepared team recognises each round and problem for what it is – an isolated event unconnected to the next round.

ENJOYMENT

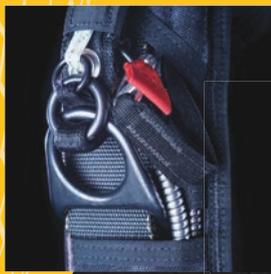
Probably the most important piece of advice I can give to anyone training for competition is to enjoy the journey from start to finish. That may sound like a dumb thing to say, but you would be surprised how many stressed competitors I have seen who would have been much happier visiting their local B&Q for some supplies!

There will always be good and bad skydives, but if you can look back at the end of a day's skydiving and take pleasure, then you are more likely to add to your bucket of mental preparation. ●

4 Clockwise from front: Cameraman Simon Brentford, Cath Anderson, Anna Hicks, Debbie Lamsley, Vana Parker and coach Gary Smith

'A mentally prepared team recognises each round and problem for what it is – an isolated event unconnected to the next round'





SKYHOOK
COMPATIBLE



Jesse Weyher

Keith Creedy



Javelin Odyssey

THE JAVELIN ODYSSEY:
Packed with standard options,
nothing standard about it.

- | Skyhook ready
- | Cut-in laterals
- | Stainless steel hardware
- | Spacer foam backpad
- | Reserve static line (RSL)
- | Hard or soft reserve ripcord
- | Hackey or freely deployment handle

#poweredbysunpath



404 W Edinborough Ave
Raeford, NC, 28376, USA
Tel: 1-910-875-9002
www.sunpath.com



NEXT LEVEL FLIGHT

Wingsuit Training, DZ Consulting & Coordination, WS Load Organizing

Next Level offers wingsuit training courses and 1:1 coaching for wingsuit pilots of all abilities. Our team includes multiple Red Bull ACES Podium finishers, an FAI World Champion, elite level wingsuit BASE jumpers with over a decade in the sport, wingsuit World Record organizers, and veteran wingsuit instructors. Our mission is to inspire wingsuit pilots (and BASE jumpers) to follow a safe and structured progression, and to encourage the sharing of knowledge in our sports.

If you are a **wingsuit pilot**, we invite you to experience an education program that encompasses proven techniques to increase your level of flying, an in-depth coverage of wingsuit aerodynamics, and the finer points of structured training and progression.

If you are a **DZ** that currently hosts wingsuit pilots or would like to be a part of this growing discipline, please get in touch with us to schedule training events at your location, and learn about current best-practices for wingsuit piloting, patterns of flight, and aircraft safety.

Partnered with:



NEXT LEVEL
www.nextlevel.ws

1



RISE UP

BPA Skydive the Expo 2017 saw the launch of our new mentoring programme, Rise Up. Matching mentors with mentees, it has already seen success across the country. We spoke to the newly qualified Alex Santau and his mentor Dean Masters

June 25 2017. Three back-to-back jumps completed by 11am. One more consol and I won't need to arch on the floor at 8am or dodge dummy pilot chute handles in a small room. One more jump...

At 2pm, I had to tell my mother-in-law that I can't drive her to the airport. At 4pm, I was online shopping a 'sorry' gift for my wife. At 5.30pm, I was almost feeling another 8am floor-arch when Dean came over to celebrate my A Licence. After a small chat that ended

with him rushing towards manifest, I heard: "15-minute call for Alex..."

When I received the email from the BPA, I did not expect much. There are loads of similar programmes that fail due to a lack of engagement or different issues. One day, though, I received a text

1 Alex Santau progressing through his AFF and onto FS coached jumps

2 Alex Santau and Dean Masters, by Rob Lloyd



from Dean introducing himself and offering guidance in my skydiving evolution. For a newly graduated AFF student who hasn't jumped in more than six months, it made a huge difference. After talking to him, I remembered that feeling that only skydiving can offer: a mix of absolute freedom, calm and control in a noisy and violent environment.

The door closed and the plane was getting ready to take off. At 10,000ft, I had my goggles and helmet on. I was shaking Dean's hand and thanking him for his support. At 15,000ft, Richie (probably the best AFF Instructor you can find in the UK and a great character) was smiling and giving me the thumbs up. Green light on. After my very first AFF Level 1 jump, this was the best jump that I've done. It was like a liberation jump – let go, arch and smile towards a 3D world.

I am not sure if I would have done that jump without the Rise Up programme

and support from Dean. Also, I would like to thank Richie and the entire Hibaldstow team for their support, commitment and professionalism.

What advice I would give to future mentors and mentees? It's a great programme that the BPA is facilitating, but it's ultimately up to you to make it work!

Dean Masters – mentor

I was so pleased to be a part of the Rise Up programme. I have a real passion and love for skydiving, and I would like a future job in the sport. Rise Up was that stepping stone, connecting me to "an actual person for me to look after" whom I can put on the right path to being a great skydiver and a valued person in our community.

Mentors can help others learn from the mistakes that we made when we were at that stage in our progression, so it's important to get mentees on the right path. Having small goals is a must, and

Alex had an open mind and listened intently to all the options and the roads to go down to achieve the goals. I felt it was important to point him in the right direction because I did a lot of solos after my AFF and got into bad habits and didn't want him to do the same.

We set a plan to meet at the DZ and have a chat. I thought it best that he focus on the remainder of his AFF, but I also introduced him to one of the FS Coaches so that he could see the bigger picture. After he got his licence, we were here ready waiting for him to start FS coaching to achieve FS1. We will keep setting small goals and keep him on the right path; I can't wait to see how it unfolds and watch him develop!

All this was only possible due to Rise Up matching us. It brings people together and it must be said that having an amazing home DZ is a big help. Thanks to the team who offered all their support along the way! ●

Sign up as mentor or mentee via <https://bit.ly/RiseUpBPA>

Join the Facebook group for the latest updates and events - "Rise Up (a BPA mentoring and skills-sharing network)"

For more information or help, contact yassi@bpa.org.uk

'After talking to him, I remembered that feeling that only skydiving can offer: a mix of absolute freedom, calm and control in a noisy and violent environment'

Get More

CYPRES

Reliability

made in

Germany

MORE FREEDOM MORE TIME

15.5 YEARS
service life

maintenance
BY CHOICE

Jay Moledzki poses for Norman's cameras during the "60 Cycles" event at Go Jump Oceanside. Photo by Norman Kent

www.cypres.cc





EXIT, EXIT, EXIT

Exiting an aircraft solo requires only one thing to go right, and that's presentation. Exiting in a group of two or more requires two things: timing and presentation. It's why, right from AFF Level 1, we give some kind of "ready, set, go" so that the group has the best chance of leaving as a team and avoiding a funnel.

In the first seconds after you exit, your forward speed is still greater than your downward speed because the former is slowing down from run-in speed while the latter is speeding up from zero. Therefore, the relative wind is initially coming from the direction that the plane is flying. Only after

7-10 seconds is it coming from the direction of the ground. The trick is to make sure your flying surface is facing into that relative wind as soon as you leave the aircraft. If you're flat flying, your chest and hips need to be pointing towards the propeller as you leave. If you manage to arch and put your head back too, you are practically guaranteed a good solo exit.

For a good formation exit, you need to achieve all of this while also making sure that everyone in the formation has their own bit of space on the slipstream. This is where timing comes in. A good dirt-dive from the exit mock-up on the ground will include a 'hands-in' where everyone

shows that they know where their space will be – floaters further away from the aircraft, divers closer to it, rear floaters and rear divers lower down and front floaters and front divers higher up. The exit count then gives you the warning you need to get to the correct place at the correct time, with the correct presentation.

The exact same skills that you learn on your belly first also apply to any exit, in any orientation. Sitflyers will fall feet-first at terminal velocity, so need to exit with their feet facing into the relative wind, as in the photo. Head down flyers need to point their heads into the relative wind. If you want to backfly... you get the idea.

SKYDIVER SPEAK

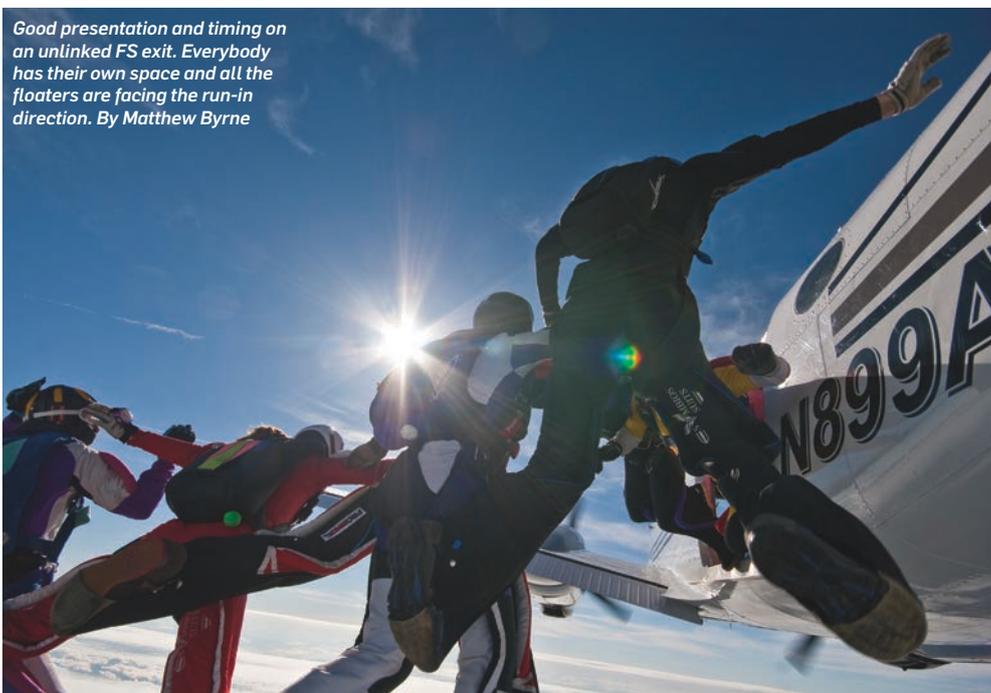
Funnel – when anyone ends up the wrong way up or unstable unintentionally, especially on exit, as if an invisible hand has reached out, plucked you and your friends out of the sky and poured you down an imaginary funnel. Approaches to rectifying this on your belly include a) kicking your legs, flapping your arms and looking surprised (an instinctive reaction that looks funny on camera but doesn't help much) or b) arching and looking for the formation!



Excellent sit-fly exit, presenting to the relative wind. By Paul Cooper



Good presentation and timing on an unlinked FS exit. Everybody has their own space and all the floaters are facing the run-in direction. By Matthew Byrne



Either Victoria or Rebecca Bradley load organising at Langar, by Gary Wainwright. Good timing, as shown by the small group size and grips, but minor presentation fail! When contacted, each twin claimed it was definitely the other one...

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.

BASIC FREEFLY COACH

Christopher Cook, Langar
Gerwyn Legg, APA
Liam Power, Weston
Jason Kubiak, Hinton
Paul Hudson

BASIC TRACKING COACH

James Garnett, JSPW (N)

Dylan Bartle, Weston
Jason Kubiak, Hinton

CF COACH

Simon Soper, Headcorn

CP COACH

Andrew Pointer, Hibaldstow

FS COACH

Christopher Ings, LPS
Alan Winkler, Weston
James Brooke, Beccles
Paul Lugg, Weston
Henry Van Halewyn, Headcorn
Martin Cole, Peterlee

Paul Waterhouse, Black Knights
Edward King, Go Skydive
Liam Power, Weston
Daniel Anders-Brown, JSPW(N)
Alexander Naqvi, Go Skydive
Joby Chadd
Matthew Botwright, JSPW(N)
Stephen Handley, APA
Chris Haughin, Cyprus
Daniel Williams, Cyprus
David Wickes, Chatteris

FF COACH

Alabama Shanker, APA
Wendy Watkins, Headcorn
Lawrence Fansa, Chatteris

Andrew Beney
Liam Power, Weston

TRACKING COACH

Alexander Anderson, LPS
Christopher Ings, LPS
Christopher Sears, Sibson
Neil Doar, Langar

WS COACH

Christopher Berte, Hinton
Thomas Lawson, LPS

SUPERVAN 900

CONVERT... REPEAT



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
NATIONAL SKYDIVE CENTER TEUGE
ON BEING OUR 100TH TPE331-12JR
ENGINE CONVERSION CUSTOMER!**





Pete Alexander performing an intentional cutaway

KNOW YOUR DRILLS

The worst might never happen, but you need to be prepared if it does. Putting yourself under pressure on the ground makes sense

WORDS: LINLEY EWING



I started skydiving five years ago, but I've never made it to an annual Safety Day – mostly because the dropzone where I learned to skydive didn't run one and the commute to my now-home dropzone clashed with my university studies in Belfast. Despite this, I do my best to watch and read about things online, I practise my drills regularly and I spend a lot of time talking and thinking about emergencies, especially since I now deal with students daily as a full-time Instructor at Skydive Langar.

Towards the start of 2017, I saw a few videos posted online from one such Safety Day showing experienced skydivers practising their emergency drills. Most demonstrated their drills well, but others vastly less so. This led to me think about the people on a dropzone on the average day. It crossed my mind that the people most rehearsed in their drills are Instructors, who regularly need to teach these, and students, who need to practise them every day before jumping.

But what about those qualified skydivers who gained their licence years ago, maybe jumping regularly or maybe not? Some of them might have had to put their drills to the test with a real malfunction, but most won't. A couple of questions, then, for those reading this: when were you last in a suspended harness

to practise your drills? Have you ever sat down and thought about those out of the ordinary situations, the ones we see regularly on Friday Freakout or in the Canopy Collisions article in this Mag, where pulling handles may not be the immediate solution?

THOSE WHO CAN, TEACH

I decided to run a series of evening sessions at Skydive Langar titled Emergency Scenario Training. The main goal of these is to provide experienced skydivers with an opportunity to get into suspended harnesses and practise their reserve drills with the help of Instructors. Another area I wanted to focus on was critical thinking: I wanted to get these skydivers thinking and asking questions, because as I said previously, pulling handles may not always be the solution.

It occurred to me that the people who should attend this kind of event are also the ones who probably wouldn't, so I arranged for Cookie Helmets and L&B to donate some prizes for a free raffle. Anyone who attends has a chance of winning and the more you attend, the more chances you have.

PAY ATTENTION AT THE BACK...

I'm now halfway through the series, having run three sessions, and I believe everyone has learnt something, myself included! From putting people in harnesses, I have seen a few mistakes but better that they happen in a place where we can learn from them. It is disappointing that some have clearly done their

drills wrong, but it also confirms that the opportunity to practise them can only be a good thing.

The main chunk of the sessions is spent talking about more complex scenarios – anything from unconscious skydivers to hung-up Instructors, or even dealing with awkward situations like noticing an out-of-date reserve tag on the rig of a more experienced jumper on the ride to altitude and having the courage of your convictions to speak up. You may think: "But that almost never happens," and you would be right, but it still *does* happen, and people have had to deal with

it when it has. These discussions are done as a group, with lots of back and forth, lots of questions and lots of answers. There isn't always a right answer. For a great example of this, the grand finale of this series will run during Boogie Two at Langar where we will be talking about incapacitated pilots, combined with several other complicating factors.

A quote I heard last year stuck with me: "When sh*t hits the fan, you don't rise to the occasion – *you revert to your training.*" I firmly believe in this theory and I hope that reading this article will get at least one

skydiver practising their reserve drills and putting themselves under pressure while they are safely on the ground so they can deal with it better when it happens for real. Anyone interested can check the Skydive Langar Facebook for future dates. Come along and see if you can learn something, or why not talk to your dropzone about running its own sessions?

To finish, I want to mention that I've had people ask in each session about how many malfunctions I've had. I've done around 1,300 jumps now and have had no malfunctions. In fairness, I have absolutely no intention of ever having one – but, if the moment does arrive, I have every intention of being ready for it!



Ryan Garner landing his reserve after a wingsuit jump at Langar, by Tom Shorten

SUNRISE MANUFACTURING



www.skydivewings.com

Para Gear

Expert Service & Sales
For Over 55 Years!

GREAT PRICES! WIDE SELECTION!
We Carry Every Major Manufacturer's Products

Para Gear .COM

EQUIPMENT COMPANY

NEW GEAR
The 2017 Season Has Started!

INSTRUMENTS

NEW!

PROTRACK II
AUDIBLE ALTIMETER & FREEFALL COMPUTER
DIGITAL ACCURACY, JUMP DATA, SWOOP ALARMS
#111440

STELLA
ANALOG VISUAL ALTIMETER
DIGITAL ACCURACY W/ANALOG FACE
#110514
ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE
STEALTH & REGULAR FACE
available in ft or m

ATLAS
AUDIBLE/VISUAL ALTIMETER
DIGITAL READOUT, LOGBOOK FUNCTIONS
#11429

PARASPORT AERONAUT
VISUAL ALTIMETER
#111860
available in ft or m

NEW! **CYPRES WS**
WINGSUIT AID
IN STOCK NOW
#11518

Wing Scale

HEADGEAR



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

BH AERO
FULL-FACE HEADGEAR
FULL FACE & LENS FLIP UP
POLYCARB, THICK LENS, SLEEK DESIGN
#15152

COOKIE FUEL
CAMERA HEADGEAR
MULTIPLE INTERCHANGEABLE MOUNTING
SURFACES FOR CAMERAS, AUDIOBLES & ACCESSORIES.
#15750

JUST RELEASED!
2017-18 CATALOG
GET ONE TODAY!



CAMERA

SCHIER CLAMP
GOPRO MOUNTING CLAMP
LOW PROFILE & SNAG RESISTANT
#12660

CONTAINERS

More Choices and Options Online.



ACCESSORIES

NEW!

KROOPS FLEXFOLD
SKYDIVING GOGGLES
CLEAR OR SMOKE LENS
SCRATCH RESISTANT, FLEXIBLE EYEWEAR
THAT FITS A GREATER RANGE OF FACE SHAPES
#81122

PARAGEAR HEADGEAR BAG
FITS FULL OR OPEN-FACE HEADGEAR
CORDURA WITH SOFT SCRATCH-RESISTANT
LINER & ZIPPER CLOSURE
#N12335

POWER TOOL
PACKING HELPER TOOL
NOW IN COLORS!
BLACK, BLUE, GREEN, ORANGE,
PINK, RED, STAINLESS & YELLOW
#S79925

PARA GEAR ALUMINUM HEX END CLOSING DEVICE
RIGGING CLOSING DEVICE
#S7315

**TONS more accessories,
apparel, suits and MORE ONLINE!**

CANOPIES



PIA FOUNDING MEMBER
Para Gear .COM
ORDER ONLINE

ORDERS: WWW.PARAGEAR.COM
EQUIPMENT COMPANY

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

CHECK OUR "NEW PRODUCT" SECTION FOR THE LATEST RELEASES

GEAR ZONE

GEAR ZONE

Maui Jim Sweet Leilani

Unusually for the UK, the sun is shining – and with the sun comes the need for a cool pair of shades. For the ladies, I offer you the 'Sweet Leilani' from sunglasses gurus Maui Jim.

These awesome frames look as good on the ground as they do tucked under a full face in freefall and, being Maui Jim, the optics

will be spot on. Seriously, the clarity of image through all Maui Jim lenses is crazy and is something I've never experienced through any other brand.

The lenses that they use block 100% of UVA and UVB rays and 99.9% of glare from above, below and behind the lens. Using rare earth elements and compounds, they significantly

enhance colour, definition and depth perception – which are all good things when you're jumping.

The Sweet Leilani frames are available in four colour combinations; Brown Aqua, Rootbeer Blue, Mauve Matte Rubber and Gloss Black.

RRP: £195
mauijim.com



L&B ProTrack II

Announced earlier in the year and available by the time you read this, the good people at L&B have finally released the follow-up to their legendary ProTrack – the original audible logging device.

With a new case design that follows the rest of their

product line, there's more to the new ProTrack II than just aesthetics. Under that plastic case, you'll find a host of new features such as four high-speed (read as freefall)

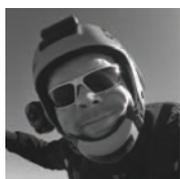
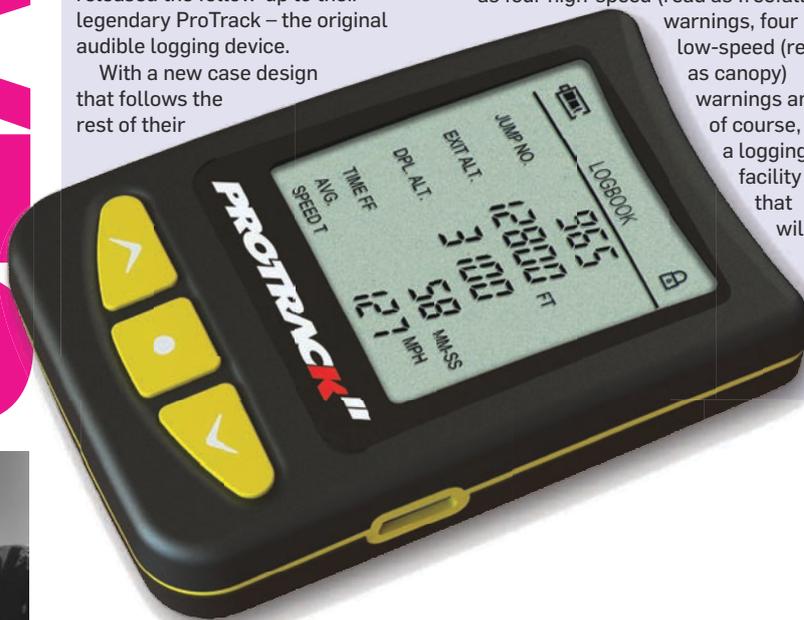
warnings, four low-speed (read as canopy) warnings and, of course, a logging facility that will

store all your jumps with detailed information on the last 200-300 depending on jump type.

Three large buttons control all the features, which are clearly visible on the large LCD screen, and a new micro USB port allows you to connect the ProTrack II up to a computer and connect to various applications such as Paralog – great for backing up your data.

L&B are keen to point out that it will function perfectly at sub-zero temps – ideal for British weather – and that it runs in an 'always on' configuration, continually checking air pressure and adjusting its parameters accordingly.

RRP: €249
lbwebstore.com



By James
'Macca'
Macdonald

Facebook.com/
skydive macca

P20

Okay, so bear with me here. Anyone who has ever met me will know I have to head for the shade when the sun appears and I'm not the only one. If I had a beer for every time I saw pinked-up skin on a DZ, I would not be able to walk.

Having tried all manner of sun protection products over the years, none has ever come close to being as good as P20 and especially for a day of jumping.

A true once-a-day product, apply it in the morning, wait 15 minutes and you're set for the day. It goes on a bit like a very watery alcohol gel or you can get a spray-on version.

Neither are gloopy or greasy like normal sun creams, and it absorbs really, really quickly without leaving weird white gunk on your skin or gear.

Once applied, it soaks under your skin and has the highest water-resistant rating you can get, meaning you stay protected no matter how much you sweat.

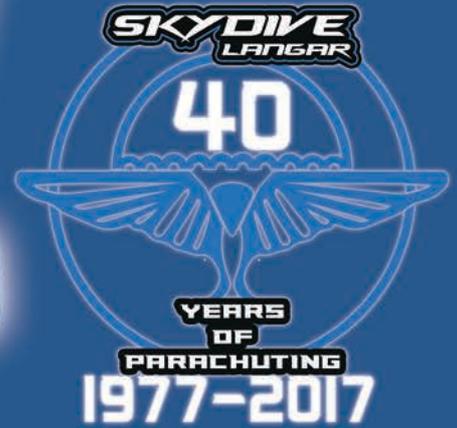
Offering full UVA and UVB protection, it's available in factor 15, 20, 30 and 50 from all the usual stockists. It's not cheap, but trust me – it's an incredible product and one that you need in your life.

p20.co.uk



BOOGIE 2

SEPT 2017



9-17 September

Skydive Langar turns 40 this year, so come and join us for an extra special Boogie with a jam packed schedule, demo gear, free load organising and the return of the awesome kit raffle!

And what Boogie would be complete without a 40th birthday party on the final Saturday?

Will Cooke FS	9-10 Sept
POPS Record	11-15 Sept
4Mula Organising	14-15 Sept
Zion Angle Camp	14-17 Sept
Paul Cooper FF	15-17 Sept
Will Cooke FS	16-17 Sept



 /skydivelangar

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

CLUBZONE

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

BPA Affiliated DZs (PTOs) in the UK

PAGE 60 **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 61 **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 61 **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 63 **4 Chatteris**
North London Skydiving Centre
Chatteris Airfield, Nr Stonea, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 0FB
DZ: 01354 740810
T: 0871 664 0113
info@ukskydiving.com
ukskydiving.com
Twin Otter, Nomad

PAGE 63 **5 Cornwall**
Cornish Parachute Club
Perranporth Airfield, Higher Trevelias, St Agnes, Cornwall TR5 0XS
Mob: 07790 439653
cornishparachuteclub@hotmail.co.uk
cornishparachuteclub.co.uk
Cessna 206, guest aircraft

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 64 **7 Headcorn**
Skydive Headcorn
Headcorn Airfield, Headcorn, Kent TN27 9HX
T: 01622 891670
jump@headcorn.com
headcorn.com
Cessna Caravan, Islander

PAGE 67 **8 Hibaldstow**
Target Skysports
Hibaldstow Airfield, Hibaldstow, Brigg, N Lincs DN20 9NN
DZ: 01652 648837
T: 01132 505600
info@skydiving.co.uk
skydiving.co.uk
Dornier G92 twin turbine, Cessna Caravan

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

PAGE 67 **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 67 **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 68 **12 Netheravon**
Army Parachute Association
Airfield Camp, Netheravon, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 9SF
T: 01980 628250
generalenquiries@netheravon.com
netheravon.com
Two BlackHawk Caravans, guest aircraft

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

PAGE 68 **14 Peterlee**
Peterlee Parachute Club
The Airfield, Shotton Colliery, Co Durham DH6 2NH
T: 01915 171234
enquiries@skydiveacademy.org.uk
skydiveacademy.org.uk
Cessna 182, Cessna Grand Caravan

PAGE 71 **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

PAGE 71 **16 Salisbury**
Go Skydive Ltd
Hangar 3, Old Sarum Airfield, Old Sarum, Salisbury SP4 6DZ
T: 01722 567536
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 Strathallan
Skydive Strathallan
Strathallan Airfield, Nr Auchterarder, Perthshire PH3 1LA
DZ: 01764 662572
T: 07836 201953
kkbrady@btinternet.com
skydivestrathallan.co.uk
Three Cessna 206s, guest turbine

PAGE 72 **19 Swansea**
Skydive Swansea
Swansea Airport, Fairwood, Swansea SA2 7JU
T: 07779 019655
info@skydiveswansea.co.uk
skydiveswansea.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

PAGE 75 **20 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 75 **21 Tilstock**
Skydive Tilstock Freefall Club
Tilstock Airfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 2HA
T: 01948 841111
skydive@skydivetilstock.co.uk
skydivetilstock.co.uk
Airvan

PAGE 60 **22 Beccles Skydivers**
UK Parachuting
Beccles Airfield, Ellough, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 7TE
T: 01502 476131
jump@ukparachuting.co.uk
ukparachuting.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

PAGE 72 **23 Sibson Skydivers**
UK Parachuting
Sibson Airfield, Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6NE
T: 01832 280490
skydive@ukparachuting.co.uk
skydivesibson.co.uk
Cessna Caravan

PAGE 76 **24 Weston**
RAF Weston on the Green, Bicester, Oxford OX25 3TQ
Currently military only

PAGE 76 **25 Wild Geese**
Wild Geese Skydive Centre
Movenis Airfield, 116 Carrowreagh Road, Garvaghy, 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)

PAGE 64 **Cyprus**
Cyprus Parachute Centre
CJSATC, BFPO 58, Dhekelia Garrison, Cyprus
T: +357 2474 4114
info@skydivencyprus.com.cy
skydivencyprus.org
PBN Piston Islander

Parachuting Societies

PAGE 60 **BCPA**
British Collegiate Parachute Association
Sam Doughty, BCPA Chair
mail@bcpa.org.uk
bcpa.org.uk
A community for university skydivers

PAGE 71 **POPS**
Parachutists Over Phorty Polly Chandler, Top POP
parachutistsoverphortyUK@gmail.com
pops.org.uk

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



GALLERY

1



1 Fun on a work jump, by Levi Hamill

2 Sam at break-off, by Duncan

3 Ben Wood splashing down in Newquay Harbour for the tenth annual Joe Way Paddle For Life, by Checkered Photography

4 Stubert Ferglstein organising a 6-way, by James Stevenson

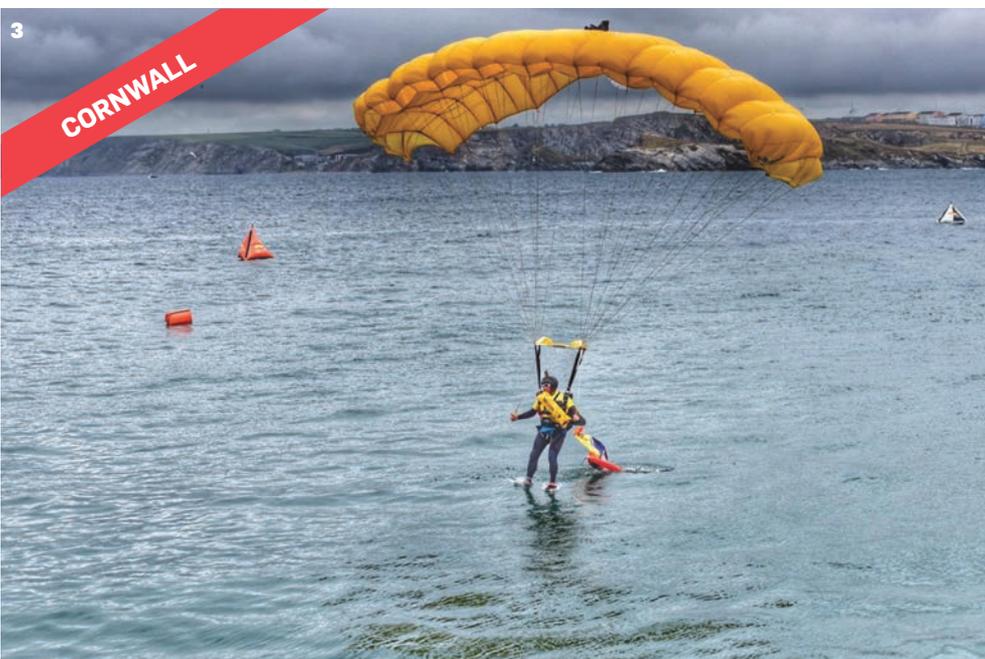
5 Craig Crosbie by Jamie Turner

6 Laura and Paul, by Bruce

2



3





NEWS



BCPA

NERF GUNS AT DAWN

The university year has drawn to a close, with 25 university skydiving clubs giving students a much-needed break from revision in the blue skies of our (long awaited) British summer!

We've seen lots of achievements this academic year, including 245 ground schools, 17 A Licences, 12 B Licences, five C Licences, 19 FS1s, two FF1s, three CF1s, one WS1, nine TR1s, one TR3, three new FS Coach ratings, one FF Coach rating and one TR Coach rating awarded to our members. These qualifications have been earned at dropzones throughout the UK and abroad and during our regular jumping at our own home DZs, as well as at the BCPA events at Langar, Peterlee, Dunkeswell, Algarve and Hibaldstow. We've had so much fun and would like to say a big thank you to the DZs for their support!

The year culminated in BCPA Nationals – a week-long event at Skydive Hibaldstow. Despite the bad weather, the attendees had a great time and took over the DZ with Nerf guns, inflatables and terrible singing, and then the bar with everything else. When we finally got some jumps in, the load organising was amazing and student skydivers made good progress.

Our big highlight of the night was the end of year raffle with a top prize of a custom rig from our sponsors Parachute Systems and XDream. It was won by Alex Potter. Other amazing prizes of 50% off an hour at iFly, a free Cookie G3 and Cookie Fuel and half off an hour at Bedford were also given away, among many more.

Also from the Nationals, we're happy to welcome in our new committee. This year, we have myself as Chair, Hayley Jones taking Vice Chair and Communications, Chantal Warren as Events Coordinator, Alex Potter returning to Tour Organiser and Jacob Verlander as Clubs Liaison.

Although this university year has ended, we're looking forward to a great summer ahead and would like to wish all BCPA members who are competing the best of luck.

Finally... are you heading to university or college this September? You can get so much support from the BCPA as a collegiate skydiver, either as part of a club or as an individual. This includes discounted jumping and tunnel time, plus some of the best events of your student year. Want to find out more? Get in touch with us via email (chair@bcpa.org.uk), Facebook or the website (bcpa.org.uk).

Robyn Dean

BCPA

(L-R) Hayley Jones, Jack Bradford, Alex Potter, Sam Doughty and Sam Haste. Alex Potter won a custom rig from Parachute Systems and XDream. By Rob Lloyd

BECCLES

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

We have so much to talk about and where better to start than with something I touched upon last article? As you know, we recently sent Max Meridius and Andy Parker to Langar for their Tandem Instructor courses. We are over the moon to say that they both passed with flying colours, so I believe that massive congratulations are in order. We all knew you guys could do it – just don't forget how to fly camera!

Unfortunately, we had to say a farewell to Adam Boyle last month. Adam flew with us for a six-month period, but has now moved on to fly with Ryanair and slowly move up his career ladder. Fortunately, we managed to chuck him out of a plane for his very first tandem on his very last day. Sadly, he still enjoyed flying that little bit more than skydiving. Best of luck with your future endeavours, and we all hope to see you flying with us again soon.

I would also like to shine a special light on one of our newest and most promising fun jumpers, Lee Harding. Lee did all seven AFF levels in just two days as well as 10 consolidation jumps plus a Level 8 in another four days. That's right – fully qualified to A Licence in just six days. To top that, his 27th jump gave him his FS1 by turning 11 points with Dave Tee, James Brookes and Mark King. Excellent progression, mate – keep your head screwed on and the world is your oyster.

Callum Kennedy

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Kane Andrews, Andrew Garner, Lee Harding, Ella Holmes, Matthew Price, Aaron Rudgley, Thomas Stace CH2/JM1 Ross Adamson, Adam Derbyshire, Damon Dixon, Jason Edwards, Kevin McGrave, Stephen Richards FS1 Henry Digby, Lee Harding, Ella Holmes, Niamh Kavanagh FF1 Niamh Kavanagh, Wanderson Salgado WS1 Tom Chaplin WS2 Marty Burgess TR1 Tom Chaplin, Sean Nolan JUMP NUMBERS 50 Ross Adamson, Adam Derbyshire, Damon Dixon, Jason Edwards, Paul Flemans, Lisa Lungley, Kevin McGrave, Stephen Richards 100 Ian Carbin 200 Tom Chaplin, Ross Fisher, Niamh Kavanagh, Kev L'amy, Andrew Picking 300 Ashley Bunn 400 Marty Burgess, Stewart Salmon 500 Callum Kennedy, Greg Lainchbury 600 James Brooke 1,000 Maximus Meridius, Andy Parker 1,200 James Page



BECCLES

Lee Harding, Dave Tee, James Brooke and Mark King

BLACK KNIGHTS

WANTED: SECOND BEER FRIDGE

The last few months have been a mixture of sunshine, lots of wind and a fair amount of rainy days – a typical summer here in the UK. However, despite the weather, we have still been mega busy on the not-so-bad weather days. We have had plenty of beer fine bills over the past couple of months due to the mountain of achievements,



so well done to Dan Place, Richard Walsh, Marta and Paul Hesketh who have all succeeded in achieving their A Licences.

Well done also to John Welch, Calum Davies, Michael Laverty, Craig English and Chris McLeod, who have all achieved their TR1s, and thanks to all the Tracking Coaches for their help and advice. Also, a big well done to Geoff Akien, who has managed to gain his TR2! Big congratulations, but is there any room left in the beer fridge?

We were also lucky enough to hold the BPA FS Roadshow last month, which was well-attended and saw a huge amount of learning and progression. A massive thank you to Martin Soulsby, Ruth Morrison, Martin Cressey and Ane Brentford, who all did an amazing job coaching everybody. We hope to see you guys again very soon!

With FS on the brain, we cannot forget to mention about the FS big-ways. We had Trevor Hookings pay us a visit again in July, and thank you for your continued guidance and advice. Trevor will also be back in August for more big-way fun, so please see our Facebook for more info. Also, more big congratulations to Pud, who has successfully achieved his FS Coach rating and he has been putting it to good use already. Well done, mate!

On July 8-9, we welcomed back Brian Vacher who was here hosting his Flight 101 and 102 courses. We saw many gals and guys attend the course to join him for coaching, information and for advice on canopy control. We had great feedback from all those who attended and, if you did miss out on this, please keep an eye out on our Facebook for the next one – they are definitely worth attending. Thank you again, Brian!

Our Tunnel Night continued to be successful and it was great to see a great bunch of club members there. Hopefully we will see all that training and progression up in the sky. Thank you to all those who helped out in the tunnel – it is much appreciated. Our next Tunnel Night is August 30, so please see or message Mark Lord.

There have been plenty of achievements and progression with both AFF and Static Line students, so we just hope the August weather is good to us so we can get you guys completed.

One last thank you goes to all of the staff for their continued help, support and guidance – day in, day out, rain or shine.

Felix

ACHIEVEMENTS **CAT8/CH1** Paul Hesketh, Dan Place, Richard Walsh, Marta Zielinska **CH2/JM1** Martin Jenson, Andy Williams **TR1** Calum Davies, Craig English, Michael Laverty, Chris McLeod, John Welch **TR2** Geoff Akien **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Martin Jenson, Andy Williams **200** Mauro Sonsonne **500** Pud Waterhouse **600** Levi Hamill **10 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Pud Waterhouse

BRIDLINGTON

THIRD TIME LUCKY

The past few months have been interesting ones with some great progression and achievements. Our Static Line Programme is running regularly and it is fabulous to see new jumpers coming through the doors and committing to their learning. We have been blessed with the odd day of good weather which has enabled them to jump and the majority are returning to complete more.

The aircraft has been a problem child of late. It broke, so we got it fixed. It broke again, so we fixed it again. In a final act of defiance, it broke again. However, we seem to have beaten it into submission this time. The Airvan has now decided that it is easier to play nicely and is behaving in an acceptable manner.

We had the first and possibly the last barbecue of the season. The Yorkshire weather does not often allow us to sit outside without getting hypothermia, but we still like to try.

The last party night was an interesting one. Mac ended up asleep in the boiler room, although he actually managed to keep his clothes on in the bar for once. This is a significant step for Mac, who is known to get naked at every given opportunity. There was also some question as to why the sleeping bag he was using was soaking wet in the morning. He insisted that he had spilled a drink on it, but once a Royal Marine...

Erik Bowie has completed his FS1. This has been a long time coming, but it was not through lack of trying to get this jump done. Erik faced weather issues, aircraft issues, a lack of available jumpers, different skydive centres and a plethora of other issues, so fair play on achieving it and a job well done.

It was great to welcome Rachel Stent back into the world of skydiving after a seven-year break. Rachel has been away having children, though her first jump back went as though she had never been away. It is also good to see Jerry Wood back in action after a period of being away.

Dave Lewis completed a skydive at Skydive GB to celebrate 30 years of jumping. That in itself is a significant achievement. We do not usually let Dave out of the pilot's seat, but on this occasion the wonderful Dave Pinkney stepped in to ensure this happened.

The first display of the season happened on Armed Forces Day at Leconfield. This was a success, with lots of smoke and SSAFA flags being flown. It probably wasn't the best idea to provide a free bar for the jumpers afterwards, and this would prove a costly exercise with some of them...

It's great to see Darren Glover back at the centre after his HK67 decided to teach him a quick lesson that it is not to be messed with. The result was Darren having a few weeks away from the sport but, despite this, he is now back in action and ready to face his nemesis again. My money is on Darren!

Sara Orton

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** Steve Cass, Tony Hogan **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Louise Aveyard **3,000** Alec Flint **SEVEN HOURS IN FREEFALL** Steve 'Ninja' Perkins **50 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Blair Stent

CARK

FLYING COLOURS

Cark's CRW teams migrated south for some shandies while attending the very first CF Grand Prix held at Langar. Both teams are severely competitive and, with Davey McMinn as head coach, nothing is left to chance. Dave teamed up with Becky with Richard on camera, while Jordan and Dezy were with Nigel. Both teams entered the Rookie category and were neck and neck right up to the last round. The final scores saw Jordan and Dez with 24 points and Dave and Becky with 23, taking gold and silver. Massive congratulations and big ups from everyone at the DZ, guys and girlie. We are looking forward to your first Nationals comp, and well done to Becky on her first CRW cutaway – more paperwork and beer fines...

BLACK KNIGHTS
4-way, by
David Mellor

“ Mac ended up asleep in the boiler room, although he actually managed to keep his clothes on in the bar for once. This is a significant step for Mac, who is known to get naked at every given opportunity ”



FLYSPOT, DESIGNED FOR PRO FLYERS

Looking for some fast and smooth air time with top coaches and excellent facilities at a very competitive price? Head to Warsaw, Poland and choose from two ISG wind tunnels with the latest technology!

During its first three years of operation, Flyspot Poland has set the standard for a world-class tunnel setup. It is not called "The Machine" for nothing! We have it all: powerful air and a high-class operation with an excellent level of flyers and coaches influencing the scene and pushing the limits of the whole sport. Let's just mention Flyspot athletes Inka Tiitto and Rafael Schwaiger for starters...

Located just 15 minutes' drive from Warsaw Chopin Airport with a restaurant and a hotel right next to it, you don't even need to hire a car to easily arrange a cozy tunnel holiday. Flying is possible more or less 24/7 – the early birds jump into the tunnel before sunrise and the night shift continues long after midnight. And yes! To smooth everything out, we also have some hotel rooms in



the building itself reserved especially for coaches flying long days.

Flyspot Warsaw's brand new big brother in Katowice was rapidly nicknamed "The Beast" due to its powerful single engine and the newest technology. It offers all the same services but with an even bigger and more ambitious facility designed especially with pro flyers in mind. In practice, this means much more space in the form of pro flyer rooms, multiple creeping and briefing areas, chilling zones, a restaurant and even a little gear shop. Flyspot Katowice opened officially at the beginning of June and the slots are filling up fast already!

You can reach Katowice by air through city's own airport or fly to Krakow and catch a train or bus. The city is friendly and everything is close! The biggest shopping center in Poland is also located opposite the tunnel.

Choose your camp: flyspot.com/events

Arrange your trip contact: alicja@flyspot.com



CARK
Cark CRW teams,
by Don

To mark Brian Shaw's 65th birthday, he got back into the Accuracy saddle and finally purchased a virtually new PD Zero 295. The team of Nicky, Brian, Stu and John will be attending the Classic Nationals at Swansea in August, so good luck and stomp some discs.

Cark has seen some awesome weather over the last few weeks and a fair few achievements to boot. Alpha Yankee has been very busy, completing some 23-25 lift days, so Mike, Duncan and James have been glued to the left-hand seat for quite a few weeks. Roll on the British summer.

Neil McLaren's absence has been noted in the lack of barbecues and marinated chicken wraps. We hope to see you soon, matey.

The club's new freefall rigs are nearly all up and running and are looking very smart indeed with the corporate colour scheme and new Vigils. That has been carried into the hangar, with a whole new carpet filling the hangar floor. There are new creepers to boot for the 4-way UKSL, so the improvements just keep coming. Next will be Stu's sound system – "oh no!" go the groans. Thanks to Steve Peter and Nicky for your rigging and assembling skills.

With Cark Week just around the corner and two-aircraft Load Organising for big-ways, let's hope the good weather lasts a little longer. The next Mag will include the UKSL round-up from Skydive North West.

Keep safe, and congratulations to all our achievers.

Stu Morris

ACHIEVEMENTS **AFF GRADUATE** Philipp Nguyen **FIRST FREEFALL** Lee Cain, Mark Nugent, Jemima Powell **FS1** Ed Corcoran, Henna Niutanen **CH2/JM1** Brooke Rawson, Gregor Rawson, Sandra Shaw **FF1** Becky Higham **TR1** Becky Higham **CF1** Becky Higham **JUMP NUMBERS** **400** Dez Blyth **500** Alec Hennis

CORNWALL
Jamie Humphrey's
100th jump, by
Andy Montriou

CHATTERIS

WHEN THE BALLOON GOES UP

We've had many balloon jumps over the past couple of months, and we are currently running balloon jump raffles and drawing names out of a hat to decide who gets to jump that day. If you're jumping at Chatteris, you might just get the opportunity to do a balloon jump that day if you have your B Licence. Again, thank you to those who volunteer to help set it up and pack it away.

Tracking Coach Kenny Baker organised a successful tracking camp on July 8-9, with many people eager to take part and some great jumps (for some of the more talented jumpers, anyway!). Congratulations also to Kenny on getting his CP1. The Introduction to Big-way Weekend went smoothly over June 17-18, with many regulars taking part and enjoying the challenge of larger formations.

If you are interested in a trip to Algarve in October, head over to our Facebook page for more details. A group of Chatteris regulars will be heading there from October 11-16 – the more, the merrier!

Most importantly, there is a list of beer fines in the upstairs packing area. Now is a great time to bring them and enjoy the club barbeque while the weather is good! Remember, ticket prices for February to December are at £20 for 0-50 jumps, £15 for 51-75 jumps and £12 for 76 jumps onwards, so keep jumping to get cheap tickets!

Sophie Barnwell

ACHIEVEMENTS **FS1** Hakim Abdul, Aaron Houghton, Alex Matei **FF1** Andrew Mines, Jon Payne **CP1** Kenny Baker **WS1** Laura Mallott **TR1** Laura Mallott **TR2** Sophie Barnwell, James Moran, Matt Summers **JUMP NUMBERS** **200** Matthew Aland, Sophie Barnwell, Stu Mounsey, Lewis Nixon, Matt Summers **300** Avi Gidar **400** Jon Payne **500** Josh Jamieson **600** Darren Drew **1,000** Sean Healy **15,000** Mike Rust

CORNWALL

GO WHILE THE BEER'S COLD

The heatwave hit the south west, giving us day after day of blue skies and light winds. It would have been rude not to make the most of it, so we flew almost 50 lifts in our 206 in one long weekend at both our DZs. Tandems, tracking, coaching, FS, Freefly, many achievements and AFF were all part of the fun on offer – finished off daily with free beer for all, of course.

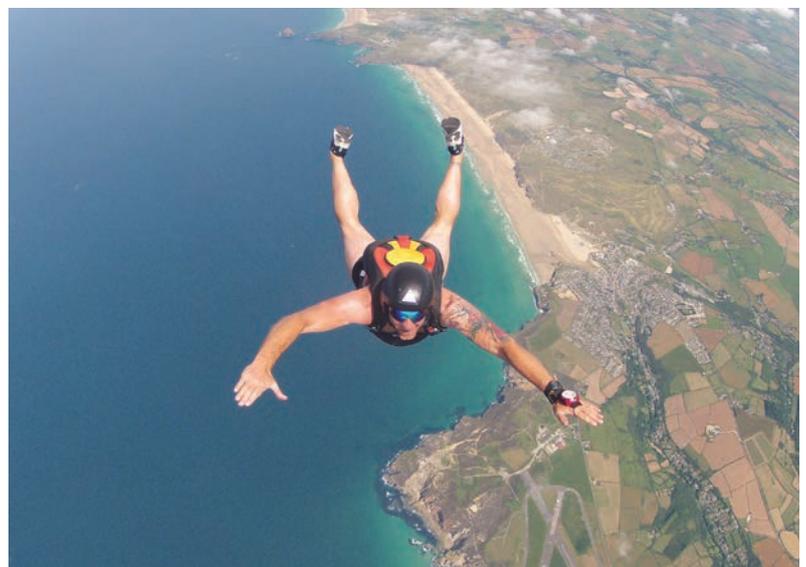
Many foreigners from across the border ("anything past Bodmin") have ventured to pasty land and have been amazed by what's on offer at our little cliff-top club. Some have even come back for more, perhaps just to assure themselves that it's real. After all, there's the slow pace of life, no manifest board, no jump tickets or 20 minute calls, and the view is something that will always blow your mind.

A couple more of our moorland crew have made the move to the coastal DZ. Ben Cornish is relishing being part of the crew, but his commitments of driving cabs, washing cars and being a human punchbag allow limited time for jumping. However, he has still obtained his B Licence. Sam, however, can't blame work for his absence by virtue of the fact he can't seem to keep a job for more than a few weeks.

Andy Douglas has hit the dizzy heights of 200 jumps, meaning he can now wear a camera and film his mum Debbie, who impressively achieved her FS1 over some memorable jumps.

The club 'nice boy' Lex ventured away to the 'Sun is low in the sky' Boogie in Finland in an attempt to answer many personal insecurities. He has returned none the wiser, but has many fairytales of a crazy skydiving wonderland.

Our newest member of the camera team, Ray, is displaying some impressive flying and has notched up his 400th jump – another product of our homegrown talent. The rest of the camera team are settling in well too and are realising that less can in fact mean more (and the claw).



Visiting jumper Jamie Humphrey saved a landmark skydive to be completed over the coast and was joined by Monty for his 100th!

The AFF crew braved the sweltering temperatures on Bodmin Moor and cruised through level after level of fun and adrenaline. Well done to Ross, Terry, Damian and Amanda. I always feel honoured to be part of teaching these guys and girls in their early days, but apparently Damian was fairly pleased to have joined me on my 7,000th skydive (also his fourth).

A demo that will hold a memorable place in everyone's hearts saw Jackson, Monty and me skydive into the sea by the harbour in Newquay (Monty's first water jump) for the 10th annual Joe Way Paddle For Life! A massive charity event, this celebrates the life of a four-year-old boy who battled more in his short life than anyone should ever be subjected to and sadly lost his fight 10 years ago. His parents have relentlessly pushed to share his story, raising more than £150,000, and the pride we feel being at asked to be involved in such an inspirational story is something words can't describe.

Let's hope we are all set for a busy summer. Stay safe up there.

UBI

ACHIEVEMENTS CH2/JM1 Ben Cornish FS1 Debbie Douglas
JUMP NUMBERS 50 Ben Cornish 100 Jamie Humphrey 200 Andy Douglas 400 Ray Ducros 7,000 Ben Wood



CYPRUS

By Chris Haughin

(and staff!) then took to the skies with the hopes of becoming the DP Champion. It turned out to be a very enjoyable experience for all and the video is very funny to watch. A big thank you to Phil for organising. The winners were Dimitris Dimitriou in first place, George Moushi in second place and Maria Yianni in third place, but the prize money turned into bell rings and beers for everyone!

PROGRESSION AND DEVELOPMENTS

As the temperature picks up here in sunny Cyprus, so does the progression of our students both through RAPS and AFF courses. Meanwhile, while our national 4-way FS team is preparing for the World Cup at Saarlouis in Germany.

We have been hard at work renovating a new student and tandem training area here at the DZ. This, along with the continuous small improvements from the staff, enables more packing space in the hangar for everybody. Tony Rayson seems to have a natural ability when it comes to DIY and he has adopted the nickname "Do it all Rayson"!

Temperatures are rising and they're becoming too high to jump – or pack! – here in Cyprus. A big DZ closing party is planned for July 23 at Kakkis Ranch, themed as 'Cowboys and Indians' and featuring a swimming pool. See you on August 26 when the club is planned to reopen.

Chris Haughin and Maria Yianni

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 George Artemiou, Kate Georgiou, Elena Michaelidou, Loizos Pallaris CH2/JM1 Dean Jones FS1 George Artemiou, Michael Euthymiades, Kate Georgiou, Dean Jones, Chris Mayberry, Elena Michaelidou, Loizos Pallaris TR1 Guy Hannaford, Dean Jones, Chris Mayberry **JUMP NUMBERS** 50 Dean Jones 100 Scott Bourner, Guy Hannaford, Chris Mayberry 200 Michail Antonis 300 Artem Mitsynsky 600 Charalambos Charalambous 800 Gaz Mooney 900 Chris Sphicas 1,000 Craig Harrop 1,300 Jim Coupe 20 HOURS IN FREEFALL Mimi Kyragoras

HEADCORN

SUPER SWEATY SKY SMILES

Has the heat been too much? Not for us here at Headcorn! Our busiest time of year is upon us and we've been manifesting at every opportunity. The Caravan got a bit of 100-hour sunstroke and needed to go off to recover for a few days, but the Islander jumped straight into action. It even found time to drop the *Red Devils* into Colchester to mark the 40th anniversary of HRH's appointment of Colonel-in-Chief.

The incredible weather has allowed for some fantastic student progression and this has meant that Auntie Jane has been handing out beer fines left, right and centre. Over the last couple of months, we've handed out lots of A Licences and B Licences... etc! We must say a big congratulations to Stuart Turner, who's bagged his 300th jump, and congratulations also to Isaac Brown and Jason Langridge, who have completed their first demo jumps with great success! Summer beer fines for the lot of them!

HEADCORN

Jane Buckle, by Richard Foord

CYPRUS

REACH FOR THE SKY

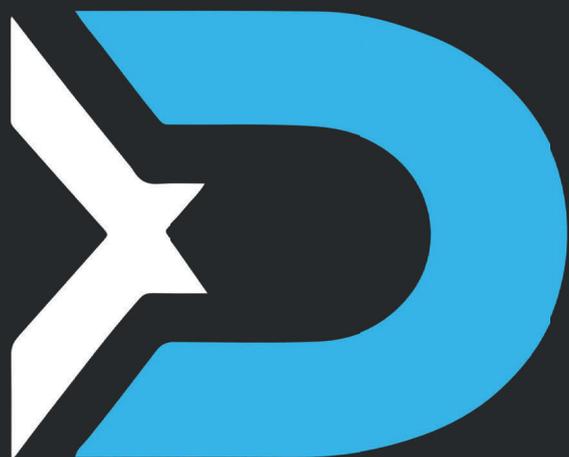
GOLD MEDAL AND WORLD RECORD

You have probably seen a Cyprus flag on the podium and new World Record announcements! We are super proud for our very own Tasos Polycarpou for taking first place AND setting a World Record by flying 5.192km (3.23 miles) at the 2017 UK Wingsuit Performance Nationals! Congratulations Taso, keep inspiring us!

DP CHALLENGE AND ACCURACY LANDINGS... WITH STUDENT CANOPIES!

The DP Challenge, organised by Phil Bell in June, was a huge success and lots of fun! Participants were scored on their 'student mentality', exit and retrieval of the DP, as well as for their Accuracy landing with the Skymaster 280 and other big student canopies. The club members





XDREAM

Pay it forward

xdsports.uk

Summer Offer - Free Reserve! [✳]



£1,700 Volt / Hurricane Main Canopy

£2,175 Vortex Container + RSL

£1,050 Cypres 2 AAD

FREE Decelerator Reserve

£4,925 Total

Parachute Systems

Can't afford new, but looking for something you can call your own?

Check out our selection of

Used Rigs

Javelin J2, Tempo 170, Volt 170 - £3,425

Vortex, Decelerator 150, PD 170 - £4,025

Vortex, Decelerator 180, Triathlon 175 - £4,075

Javelin J3, Decelerator 180, Spectre 190 - £3,325

Atom, Decelerator 150, Triathlon 175, No AAD - £1,800

Vector 2, Decelerator 180, Sabre 170, 2005 Cypres - £1,950

*When purchased as part of a complete rig

Decelerator reserve retail price £1150. Price includes all applicable VAT and import duty, assembly and packing. Vortex container includes most available options including spacer foam, articulation and custom embroidery (Skyhook upgrade available for £225). Domestic shipping (UK) not included, free collection available. Prices subject to change based on exchange rate fluctuations, offer may be withdrawn at any time. For more info go to xds.uk/summer17

New Cypres included unless specified. Other combinations available



Our mission is to support progression in all disciplines at all levels

CYPRES 2
Reliability made in Germany





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
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!



GATORZ



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
starting at
\$6584
including AAD

Icon
starting at
\$6730
including AAD

Mirage
starting at
\$6530
including AAD

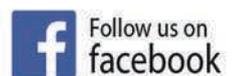
**Javelin
Odyssey**
starting at
\$6830
including AAD

Wings
starting at
\$5885
including AAD

Vector
starting at
\$6330
including AAD

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



Many of our club members have been taking the opportunity to fine tune their skills and learn some new ones. Eric Shapland has been dishing out his valuable packing tips, Luke Warren has been sharing his tracking expertise and Mary Barratt has had her CF Lightnings out for all to admire. The Lightnings aren't the only things that are out on display, though, and Chris Lynch is super happy to announce that the Speed and CP2 Course is now set up and ready. It's time to get your summer swoop on!

On an FS note, Brian Cumming will be coming down soon to organise a Scrambles competition and host our Big-way for Beginners Weekend so we will tell you all about that in the next issue. In September, the annual Bawl Water Jump will be taking place too.

We are very sad to announce the passing of Dave Kember, a key member of airfield staff, who was sadly taken from us way too soon. RIP Dave, and blue skies to you always.

There is loads of exciting stuff going on at our DZ and we imagine that your local dropzone has a jam-packed calendar too. Take a few moments to consider the huge amount of work that goes into providing a fully operational DZ and airfield, and show respect and gratitude to the people who enable you to do what you love to do.

Safe summer jumping to you all!

Jem Westing

ACHIEVEMENTS **GRADUATED AFF** Bejay Cutmore, Oscar Holmes, Bertan Millan, Christopher Shortall **CAT8/CH1** Martin Higgins, James Kirby, Kristina Labahn, Lee Moore, Mike Robinson, Mark Sawyer, Gary Waters **CH2/JM1** Alesha Drury, Olive Wang **FS1** Karen Collins, Alesha Drury, George Hendry, Connor Higgins, Stephen Shanley **FF1** Emma-Louise Negus, Hasan Rahhal, Paul Turner **WS1** Stuart Turner **WS2** Simon Soper **TR1** Ben Boucher-Giles, Peter Collins, David Griffith-Jones, Jason Langridge, Tony Lloyd, Jez Pearce, Mike Southgate, Charlie Wakeham **TR2** Charlie Wakeham **JUMP NUMBERS** **100** Alesha Drury **200** Emma Negus **300** Stuart Turner **500** Tony Lloyd **1,500** Alex Leslie **2,000** Si Beech, Paul Digby **3,000** Elaine Cherry

HIBALDSTOW

YOU HAD US AT 'ICE CREAM'

Summer's here, and she brought the scorching weather with her! After a spell of weather holds, we broke through and came out the other side sunburnt and peeling. With the roasting weather, we saw a huge influx of fun jumpers, tandems, teams and spectators come to the DZ and jump their day away. They were also more than happy to try out our delightful new range of ice cream. Come and try it, it's really good...

We have also seen the BCPA skipping onto the DZ, armed with Nerf guns and bouncy castles. The week was a huge hit, with plenty of skydiving, booze, karaoke, music, hot tubs and lots of after hours games. More than 50 BCPA kids turned up to party the week away and smashed the weekend with our fantastic Dornier G92 and our Supervan. We were even throwing our Caravan into the mix too.

The one and only Stubert Ferglstein has had a huge hit with all of his events and none more so than the Intermediates. This group of seasoned skydivers took their rightful place in the sky and put together some incredible shapes, all of which were photographed by the amazing James Stevenson and Joe Mann.

Along with our belly flyers, we saw our Freely ninjas take to the sky with grit and determination. With Ally Milne and Matty Mitchell leading the charge, they set the British Head Up Record with their 14-way Head Up formation. Well done guys, well deserved. Our Freely groups are getting bigger and better these days, with Matty Mitchell being our full-time Freely Coach and load organiser.

With such a good season upon us, our jump numbers are rocketing! The infamous Jason Leighton has just had his 10th anniversary in the sport and celebrated by doing his 1,000th jump and so achieving his D Licence! Along with Jay, we had our own Rob Johns do his 100th jump, Ezra Morris powered through and got his 100th jump, Neil Oliver did 1,000 jumps and got his D Licence as well while Eric Valentanavics from *Smash N Grab* did his 300th jump. That team is one to watch out for at the Nationals!

So, with all this magic happening here at Hibaldstow and our three aircraft going strong, come down and jump out of one to see what all the fuss is about! And maybe you'll even win a free ice cream too...

Sophie Harper

ACHIEVEMENTS **CAT8/CH1** Alex Santan **CH2/JM1** Doug Houston, Jake Willoughby **50** Doug Houston, Jake Willoughby **100** Hannah Hardy, Rob Johns, Ezra Morris **300** Eric Valentanavics **400** Max Navarro **1,000** Jason Leighton, Neil Oliver

JERSEY
Matt Falloon
clocking 50



“ We have also seen the BCPA skipping onto the DZ, armed with Nerf guns and bouncy castles. The week was a huge hit, with plenty of skydiving, booze, karaoke, music, hot tubs and lots of after hours games ”

JERSEY

MAKING AN ENTRANCE

The year started with high-energy promotion and is due to continue, with a series of demo jumps planned for various beaches and events. Jersey holds a Battle of Flowers annually, with decorated floats parading along the seafront competing for the Prix d'Honneur which is awarded to the best creation. This year, George McGuinness is going to have the honour of parachuting in with the flag to open proceedings. It's a great advert for the club and an opportunity to raise the profile of the sport locally.

Simon Griffiths has been flying the Jersey flag over at Dunkeswell at the International Speed Skydiving World event. We're all very proud of his achievement, clocking a respectable 228mph and 11th place. As this is the first official representation of a Skydive Jersey member in competition, it makes it all the more special. Cheers Si, the beers are on you!

Matt Falloon got a mention last issue and he's done it again by clocking up his first 50 jumps and preparing to become a dad at the start of next year. Congratulations! This man just loves beer fines!

Big up to Simon Humphries. Bouncing back from a disagreement with the beach that he lost, he's been declared fit for action and is keen to get back on it and show the beach his new name is 'Twinkletoes'.

The Boogie is all set for August 21-24 and online registration is available at skydivejersey.net/experienced/. Get on board for some fun jumping onto the beach.

Nigel O'Brien

LANGAR

STICKER SHOCK

Summer seems to have finally arrived! We have a long list of achievements from recent months, including stickers handed out in practically every discipline – CAT8, FS, FF, TR, CP, CF, WS – so it's all happening at Langar!

The second UKSL meet of the year was a battle with the elements.

In the end, we managed to complete just one round but a decent turnout saw teams getting an idea for who their competition for the season will be.

University progression week was a hit too; not only did the students get plenty of safety briefs and progression info, they also got some weather to get jumping!

The CF Grand Prix had a stunning weekend, with lots of teams making the trip to hang out above sunny Nottinghamshire along with plenty of Langar regulars in the medals.

We also hosted a BPA Speed Roadshow, with Mikey Lovemore passing on his tips and tricks to a group of budding Speed enthusiasts ready for their Nationals not long afterwards.

Big congratulations to all the candidates who passed their BPA Instructor ratings at the examination course at Langar in July. Our very own Princess Tom Shorten gained his AFF Instructor rating.

Coming up, we have Boogie 2 (September 9-17) with a whole host of organisers and disciplines to come and join in with, Walk-up FS with Will Cooke and Dave Rodgers of *4mula*, the POPS Record, the *Zion* Angle Camp (there are still some slots available, so get in touch to reserve your place!) and FF Organising with Paul Cooper. Place your orders for the weather now!

Details of all our events are published at facebook.com/skydivelangar.

Chris Judd

ACHIEVEMENTS **CAT 8/CH1** Lee Glaze, Lisa Salt, Ben Shearer, Seb Tailleur **FS1** Radu Balint, Harriet Coppock, Faris Husaini, Chris Lane, Oli Stocks **CF1** Tom Bird, Wes Guest, Max Holmes, Ali Woodhouse **CP1** Ben Smith **FF2** David Gagno **WS1** Tom Chaplin, Paul Rimmington **TR1** Radu Balint, David Gagno, Danni Gregory, Matt Hart **TR2** Emily Aucutt, Matt Hart **JUMP NUMBERS** **50** Chris Lane **300** Thomas Bird **400** Joseph Coyne **500** Matt Cumming, Paul Colman, Pete Harries **600** Ryan Garner **700** Matt Kite, Ben Mitchell, Emily Sugars **800** Paul Rimmington **900** Jakob Aungiers, Paul Wilcock **1,000** Cath Anderson, Kim Squires **2,000** Brian Cumming **3,000** Will Cooke **24 HOURS IN FREEFALL** Jonathan Charles

NETHERAVON

BECAUSE WE'RE HAPPY!

There have been lots of happy faces at Netheravon this summer. There's been something for everyone to enjoy: Load Organising and progression for Freeflyers, FS jumpers and Canopy Pilots, an 8-way Speed Star Competition, Wingsuit coaching, the Solstice Boogie and



“The Solstice Boogie was next on the calendar and, after several years' absence, was incredibly well-attended. Perhaps it was the great T-shirt designed by our very own Roxanne Everitt?”

NETHERAVON
Trevor Hooking's Load Organising group, by Mike Coleman

our epic Happy Hippy Party. It is no wonder our achievers list is so long this edition.

June started with the ever-popular PD Flight-1 courses. If you can, get yourself on one of these – regardless of how much experience you have! Next came Freeflying and FS Load Organising weekends, which took full advantage of the awesome weather we have been experiencing. Bumble manifesting and super-efficient Blackhawk aircraft meant members got the maximum jumping experience, with some even managing 10 jumps a day!

We had 32 jumpers making up four teams at the 8-way Speed Competition in mid-June, all fighting it out for the honour of making the fastest formation and subsequent points. The gold was taken by *Never too LB* with impressive times, lots of (simple) points and fantastic camera work by Dave Curtin, who also did his 4,000th jump on the final jump of the competition. Thanks to Jim Davidson for organising this event, and we're looking forward to the next one already.

The Solstice Boogie was next on the calendar and, after several years' absence, was incredibly well-attended. Perhaps it was the great T-shirt designed by our very own Roxanne Everitt? We suffered from the 'Glastonbury Effect' and bad weather stopped us from jumping, but this gave us a great opportunity to enjoy seminars by Paul Capsey and Trevor Hooking, a FlyBlind and FlySight workshop with Paul Cain, Shanker-style basketball, sports massage with Caroline Way and even a salsa class with Stuart Perry. Everyone had a 'groovy' time at the Happy Hippy Party on Saturday night, especially the winners of our awesome raffle and the coveted alternative awards trophies. Plans are already afoot for next year's event!

In typical British fashion, the weather instantly improved for the Freefly one-on-one coaching the following weekend and stayed bright and beautiful for the FS Load Organising on July 8-9. In the next mag, we'll give you the full report on the remaining July events – two Wingsuit Coaching weekends, a Freefly and Tracking Progression event and more FS Load Organising – which, at the time of this going to press, are yet to take place. Next month's Club Zone is going to be just as packed!

The Armed Forces Parachute Championship will be on August 19-25, so put the dates in your diary now. You can find all the information you need and the joining instructions on our Facebook page at Skydive Netheravon.

Elana Cain

ACHIEVEMENTS **CAT8/CH1** Louise Adkin, Arran Crawford **CAT8** David Simmonds **CH2/JM1** Craig Lord, Steve Pengilly **FS1** Neil Bostrom, Phil Greenland, Ash Horton, Jocelyn Keen, Carlos McDougall, David Nelson, Steve Pengilly **FF1** Michael Bayada, Józef Bieszczad, Chris Dawson, Robin Dolton, Steven Luke, Tom Richardson **FF2** Jasper Smith **WS2** Rob Judge, Emma Reynolds **TR1** Lauren Barr, Catherine Folley, Jeremy Millard, Jaz Singh, Michael Veevers, Kathryn Young Owen **TR2** Józef Bieszczad, Peter Boone, Victor Kchm, Sel Pasos **JUMP NUMBERS** **50** Craig Lord, Steve Pengilly **100** Will Garforth **200** Kwunita Man **300** Emma Reynolds, John Welsh **600** Lee Funnell **1,300** David Lee **4,000** David Curtin **ONE HOUR IN FREEFALL** Lauren Barr, Will Garforth **THREE HOURS IN FREEFALL** Dan Anders-Brown

PETERLEE

30 NOT OUT

As Peterlee Parachute Club is approaching our 30th anniversary, bookings have been coming in fast. It's been another good year for both tandem and solo jumping, with numbers already up on last year. If we keep this going, we are looking to fit a Texas Turbine Conversion to our Cessna Grand Caravan at the end of the season to turn it into a Supervan so we can take 15 jumpers to 15,000ft in 15 minutes.

We bade farewell to Henry Simmons last month after he left us to finish the final year of his degree in Berlin. Henry started his Category System course through Durham University in October 2014, gained his A Licence on his first jump of the year in February 2016 and his progression was never-ending after that. He soon got his FS1 and B Licence, then his C Licence, TR1 and WS1, and he even squeezed in his FF1 as well just before leaving us. Well done in your achievements, Henry, and good luck to you. Your enthusiasm is already missed at the DZ.

Why Hurricane Factory Tatralandia Is My Spiritual Home - And It Should Be Yours, Too

PARADISE BY THE MINUTE



www.hurricanefactory.com

“Where are you these days, Annette?”
“Slovakia.”

It's at this point in the conversation that I always know if the person I'm talking to has spent time at Hurricane Factory Tatralandia. If the next word they say is “Again?!” I know they haven't. If they have, however, they generally breathe a deep, nostalgic sigh and tell me how much they wish there were out here with me.

How much do I love it here? The stamps in my passport tell the story, clear as crystal. I'm an American, and I can spend 90 out of every 180 days in the Schengen area of Europe (of which Slovakia is a part). Flip through my passport, and you'll see that I used to spend most of that time in Switzerland and Italy. Since I first set foot here in 2015, however, I've burned pretty much every day of my Schengen visa at the altar of the Hurricane Factory Tatralandia tunnel. I wouldn't have it any other way. Since you're probably wondering why I'm so obsessed with this place, I'll break down why Hurricane Factory Tatralandia is the best little secret in airsports.

1. It's really nice here.

I used to spend a lot of time in dark, rattly, inhospitable caves: UK and US wind tunnels, y'know. So when I first walked into Hurricane Factory Tatralandia, with liquid sunshine pouring in from the mountain panoramas on both sides, smooth 14-foot-by-46-foot tube, copious space to spread out, strong wifi, solicitously accommodating staff and a liberal sprinkle of snuggly beanbags strewn about the place, I was already won over. I had come here for the low

prices, after all. In my wildest, most lip-biting dreams, I never imagined it'd be better.

2. You'll be here in no time.

Sure, you can fly in to Bratislava or Krakow or Prague if you want to tack on a city break, but the regular WizzAir flight from Luton to the local regional airport is the cheapest, easiest bet. You'll be swooping down over the Tatras mountains before you've finished brushing the airport lounge donut sugar off your shirt.

3. Total. Focus.

Eye on the prize? Cool. Here, you don't have to expend one iota of energy on doing anything outside the tunnel if you don't want to. With just a small flurry of emails beforehand, the tunnel can book your airport transfers, your accommodation-even your meals, delivered right to your beanbag. There's even a little village of holiday homes right outside, so you can stumble straight out the tunnel door and home into bed. With all the details sorted, you're free to expend all your iotas of energy on the task at hand: learning how to fly.

4. The waterpark next door.

If you're here for the flying, you might be tempted to ignore the fact that Hurricane Factory Tatralandia sits right next to a waterpark. “What a profligate waste of time, waterparks,” you might scoff as you click your helmet shut for the sixth fifteen minutes you'll spend today spinning around in a tube full of wind. Normally, I'd agree with you. I've always hated waterslides. Wedgies and sloshy sinuses and screaming kids were never my apple cart.

However. Try this.

Do a very long day in the tunnel. Get nice and thrashed by about 6pm, then buy a ticket to the waterpark. As you walk in, take a sharp left before you get to the pirate ship pools*. Go down the stairs, where the lady at the counter will hand you a sheet and point you through the door. Behind it is a complex with something like a dozen different muscle-melting experience rooms-including an elevator to a rooftop biosauna and bubbly pool with an enveloping view of the Low Tatras. You'll walk into your morning session with, like, a whole new body. You're welcome.

5. This is a tunnel for athletes, by athletes.

In an industry that's often driven by first-time-flyer traffic, it feels good to train at a facility that truly loves its sport flyers--where the smiling faces at the desk understand what you need not because they were told to give good customer service but because they have national medals. These guys know what the windytube means to those of us who love it. They love it, too.

6. Long-term livability.

This was the kicker for me. If you've suddenly found yourself very serious about advancing your flying skills, but you don't want to get a job at a windytube or give up your other outdoorsy pursuits to live in the suburban nowhere, it might be for you, too. The kicker is this: The Liptov region of Slovakia is very, very livable. In fact, it's one of the most livable places I've ever spent time in (and I've been traveling the world full-time for

eight years). The quality of life is high; the cost of living is low, so low in fact, that integrating some tunnel flying into your daily routine is surprisingly doable.

True: Hurricane Factory Tatralandia is nowhere near an urban center. If you need café culture and clubbing to feel human, you're gonna be chewing off your own arm to get away. If, instead, you'd rather camp out in a mountaintop castle ruin, do some lift-access paragliding in either of the two local mountain ranges, windsurf the neighborhood lake, delight in some of the best hiking you've ever muddled your shoes for or simply spend the afternoon sipping in the sun at a really good brewery in the next town over, you won't be bored here. You can jump at one of two dropzones within an hour's drive (one of which has regular MI-8 helicopter boogies across the summer months; the other packs a Skyvan). If you're here in the winter, the closest ski resort is about twenty minutes door-to-door from the tunnel. So that's my love letter to Hurricane Factory Tatralandia. I won't bore you with the other stuff I love**. Gotta keep it on-message, after all. I'm so happy to have stumbled upon this place. If you end up out there, I'll likely be on the beanbag beside you so don't be a stranger, neighbor. Say hi.

*Yes. The pirate ship pools.

**Like the fact there's a beautiful space in the tunnel where I can do a daily yoga practice, or that the hill across the way is a fantastic multidirectional place to kite my speedwing, or that there's a petting zoo next door with bushbabies.

Annette O'Neil



SIMPLY THE BEST PARACHUTE EQUIPMENT

THE JUMPSHOP

NEW WEBSITE!

COMPETITIVE PRICING

BUNDLES

Skydive Starter Packs to Professional Kits

LEADING EQUIPMENT

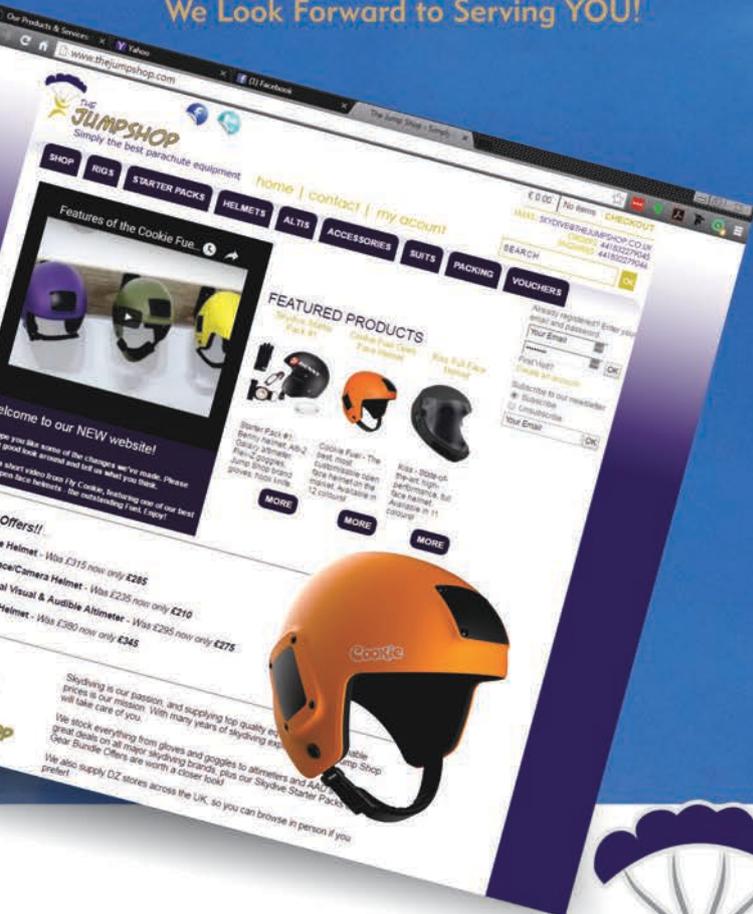
From All Major Manufacturers

TONS OF ACCESSORIES

We specialise in bespoke, tailor-made service and quotes
Flexible payment options available, please ask us for details

Please contact our team now for more information
or to book your personalised gear consultation

We Look Forward to Serving YOU!



0% ^{THE JUMPSHOP} Finance Now Available!

Save £770 off the retail price
of this custom rig bundle
AND
Get 0% finance over 12 months**

ASK ABOUT RIG BUNDLES FROM

SUNPATH - INFINITY - VECTOR - PARATEC - MIRAGE - AERODYNE - WINGS

Javelin Odyssey Rig Bundle INCLUDES: GREAT DEAL!

- Spacer Foam Back & Leg Pads
- Choice of deployment handles
- Choice of container/harness colours
- Choice of main canopy*
- Choice of reserve canopy*
- AAD (Cypres or Vigil)

THE JUMPSHOP	Recommended Retail Price	Jump Shop Price
Javelin Odyssey Bundle Price (NET)	£6,237.12	£5,629.17
Total Package Price INCLUDING VAT/Duty/Shipping to UK	£7,671.66	£6,923.88
Deposit £3500		£3,500.00
Amount of credit		£3,423.88
Monthly Payments		£285.32
Number of months		12
Total amount repayable		£6,923.88

ASK US about finance on other products from helmets, canopies, altimeters and AADs.

*Main canopy options based on equal or lesser value than PD Sabre2. Reserve canopy options based on equal or lesser value than PD Reserve.

**Finance is available to persons aged 18 and over. All finance is subject to status. The Jump Shop Ltd is acting as a credit broker and offers finance products from Omni Capital Retail Finance Limited.

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.



THE JUMPSHOP

www.TheJumpShop.com

01832279045 / 01832279046 or email: skydive@thejumpshop.co.uk





We had an excellent turnout for Brian Cumming's Big-way Weekend. The weather was fantastic and lots of jumping was had by all.

The DZ has had a bit of a tidy up, with new tandem cupboards and trolley nests in the hangar. Additional electricity points have been installed for the Caravans, and the grass has been cut and strimmed thanks to some of our regular jumpers.

We would just like to remind our regulars and members that we have been holding safety briefs and seminars on bad weather days. These are usually advertised on Peterlee Skydivers Facebook page, so please try and attend these very useful seminars if you can.

Lisa and Simon

ACHIEVEMENTS FS1 Mary Sunter FF1 Henry Simmons
JUMP NUMBERS 300 Sara Lamb, Chloe Smith
 500 Tomasz Lipiec

POPS

THREE ISN'T THE MAGIC NUMBER

SCRAMBLES 2017

During this year's AGM, those that attended asked for more POPS events such as the Scrambles, Speed Star and Big-way Warm-up Weekends. The first of these events was held at Dunkswell on July 1-2 2017 and it was very disappointing that only three members (including myself) attended. All was not lost, though, and we jumped all the rounds of the Scrambles dive pool after recruiting the cameraflyer into the team. The sun was shining, the waiting times were short, flight to altitude was swift and the additional height was welcomed. It was all very civilised, and we even stopped for lunch with a nice refreshing drink (we weren't in France, so no wine). On average, we scored 8.25 in time with the best score in a jump of 10 points and a further five points out of time. Thanks go to Liz Warner, who came to judge the jumps, and to Skydive Buzz, for making us very welcome and for their their efficient operation.

WORLD MEET AND CHAMPIONSHIP 2018

For the latest events, please see the POPS Facebook page. There is also a new event – the 14th POPS World Meet and Championship – which will be held at Nagambie in Australia in April 2018. Please let me know if you are attending the meet by joining the Facebook event, and please see popsworldmeet.com for more information.

Finally, the UK POPS has a new member in the form of JOS Michael Graham.

Polly Chandler

READING

ON THE WAY UP

LPS has had a sudden flurry of student activity, with six students progressing to get their A Licences – well done to all of them. In addition, all of the AFF students are progressing well and a few more are doing consols at present, so we are looking forward to a few more A Licences in the coming months.

We are looking forward to a Canopy Handling course during August for all levels, which will be run by Paul Floyd.

Quite a few club members are achieving special jump numbers and some make it more of an event than others. For example, Wendy did her 100th jump in a *Kill Bill* outfit.

Our club jumpers have been working on achieving some big-ways as well under the guidance of our CI Jay.

Marie-Ann Stevens

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Alex Barnard, Tom Levin, Max Pinter, Daniel Surtees, Radu Vasile, Luca Visco Guardi, Jaroslaw Zwierzykowski FS1 Trystan Allen, Katie Unwin **JUMP NUMBERS** 100 Wendy Smith 300 Jonny Castell, Tamsyn Stanton, Jan Wilczynski 500 Roger Davis

PETERLEE

Our oldest jumper at the DZ, Roy Howarth, and Henry Simmons walking back after Henry's last jump at Peterlee.

By Lisa Stephenson

READING

Wendy's 100th jump



SALISBURY

A GOOD START

Launched in spring 2015, the GoSkydive apprenticeship scheme is now well underway and the first two fully qualified Instructors have emerged. Alex Naqvi qualified in October 2016 and now has more than 500 jumps as a fully qualified Tandem Instructor under his belt. Edd King, the second apprentice to rise up the ranks, has just passed his Tandem Instructor course and starts jumping as a fully qualified Instructor in July.

The scheme, which is run in collaboration with Wiltshire College, was the brainchild of GoSkydive owner Gordon Blamire, who recognised the need for a solely customer-focused tandem skydive dropzone and founded GoSkydive in 2008. Gordon's vision for his dropzone included working with Instructors who shared his passion for skydiving in such a way as to want to share it with novices as inclusively as possible, which meant putting customer care at the heart.

"...and that's why customer care is such a central part of the apprenticeship scheme," said Gordon. "Many Instructors don't have the same desire to share the experience in the way that we do. If we can identify and recruit people who have a natural flair for customer care and then train them to be Instructors, I believe we'll have a really strong, customer-focused team."

There are currently 16 apprentices going through the programme. Due to qualify at the end of the summer season, Mike Baller and Craig Langley-Smith are currently commercial cameraflyers. Mat Wilson and Alex Dale will qualify in early 2018 and are also currently working as commercial cameraflyers. One year in and Andy Inman is about to complete his C Licence, while



Amy Schaverien, Laura Gregg and Macauley Shaw have just completed their AFF. Just starting their AFF are Ben Stallwood, Brad McBride, Nathan Purver, Alan Harrison, Jamie Martell and Laura Stainer. New recruits Lynzi Campin and Richard Creed are currently learning the skills around the ground operation.

Chief Instructor Ryan Mancey commented: "What's so good about the programme is that the guys are so closely mentored that we're not only creating new Tandem Instructors; we're identifying the skill sets that will progress their careers further. Future CIs, Operations Managers and Advanced Packers are already easily recognisable within the apprenticeship team".

"That mentoring can't be underestimated," said Operations Manager Laura Durrant. "The mentoring and coaching is producing not only Tandem Instructors but Tandem Instructors who, at this stage in their careers, have really exceeded all expectations. Norman Kent, Brian Vacher and Kenny Gajda have been excellent contributors to the apprenticeship programme and we'll continue to build on that pool of leading industry professionals that the apprentices have access to."

GoSkydive are currently recruiting for four new apprentices and will recruit for a further four to begin the programme at the end of this year. For more details and to apply, visit goskydive.com/apprenticeships

Rachael Hallett

SIBSON

FROCK AND AWE

Summer is well underway at Skydive Sibson and, along with the weather being (mainly) kind, the ground fun has almost matched the fun in the sky! There's been more than one 'epic' party at the dropzone since the last Mag, although not many people can recall



SALISBURY
The GoSkydive Apprenticeship Team

SWANSEA (RIGHT)
By Chris Dutton

SIBSON (BELOW)
Chris Lewis, David Haygarth and Kyle Scholes, by Hannah Cooper

too much about them. The obligatory toilet selfies and 4am photos prove they happened, though...

In terms of jumping, it's been a busy couple of months. We've had the famous Sibson Scrambles which – despite some challenging conditions – finally happened with some weather chasing. *We Need A New Name* came out on top, and Charlotte Stapleton and Craig Horton finally obtained their FS1s – good work guys! Some familiar club faces reached their D Licence milestone, so big congrats to Happy Days, Skyyyydiviiiiiiii and Joshepin (you know who you are!).

On top of this, Sibson hosted BPA TI and AFFI courses on what turned out to be two of the hottest days of the year since 1976. The Sibson team were undeterred by the conditions, however, and we now have three new TIs to add to the roster. Huge congratulations to Macca, Victoria and Rebecca Bradley for getting their ratings! In other ratings news, Andreou Beney achieved his FF Coach rating and the Bradley twins also ran two successful FS Coaching courses as part of the MAGPAS Air Ambulance weekend. If you've recently got your A Licence, there will soon be plenty of coaches around to help you on the next leg of your skydiving journey.

Speaking of MAGPAS, we all know that skydivers are a diverse bunch and there's always a few mad people around. Shane Wood is a case in point, and he continues to baffle most of us with his endurance endeavours. As well as completing yet another Ironman Triathlon in July, he managed to raise £4,000 for MAGPAS. Awesome work!

In competition news, well done to Sibson 4-way teams *Vantage* (AA) and *Poor 4Cast* (A) who, after two rounds of this year's UKSL, bagged two gold medals and two silver medals between them. We'll find out soon if they are setting a trend for the year, with Round 3 at Cark and the Nationals just around the corner. While we're on the subject of the Nationals, Sibson is sending an Accuracy team to compete for the first time in years. With some new faces joining the frappe hat crew, we're sure they're going to do us proud! Just don't pack any mals, eh Jimmy?

By the time this goes to print, Sibson's July Boogie will have just happened. Along with 10 consecutive days of jumping, multiple aircraft and load organising, I'm sure there'll be news in the next Mag of another Sibson party which will involve Kyle in a dress and Ged's Jam Jar somewhere along the line. Probably.

Matt Brown

- ACHIEVEMENTS** **CAT8/CH1** Jay Arnob, Ryan Zeller **CH2/JM1** Fabrizio Colona, Jim Cowan **FS1** Jim Cowan, Charlotte Stapleton, Ryan Zeller **FF1** Emily Cook, Paul Garwood, Chris Holland **TR2** Paul Garwood **TR3** Andreou Beney **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Fabrizio Colona, Jim Cowan **100** Emily Cook **200** Matt Brown, Elliot Clapp, Asa Murphy **500** Alex Kean **600** Darren Drew **700** Wes 'Doesn't do fun jumps any more' Lawes **1,000** Guiseppe Damiano, Ged Parker, Radek **1,100** Sam Lee **1,900** Jimmy Frith **2,000** Rebecca Bradley **2,001** Victoria Bradley



SWANSEA

ON TARGET

Swansea has been a busy, busy place recently and the weather has been relatively kind to us for a change. There's been lots of jumping and people clocking the jumps in: Tanya Quigley completed her 2,000th jump, while Laura Turner and Chris Fowler completed their 500th jumps. The beer fridge beckons!

Preparations are in full swing for the Nationals, and Matt Oakley in particular is enjoying jumping his new Accuracy canopy ready

FOR ALL YOUR SKYDIVING GEAR



© Paulo Ya Braz

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





LIFE INSURANCE FOR SKYDIVERS

WWW.SPORTS-FS.CO.UK
CALL TODAY: 0345 565 0935



Sports Financial Services Ltd is an appointed representative of Suttons Independent Financial Advisers Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered in England and Wales. Registered No. 493197.

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



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



SKYDIVE SEBASTIAN
SKYDIVE OVER THE FLORIDA COASTLINE

FULL TIME SKYDIVING

INVASION BOOGIE
December 28th - January 1st

**LEARN TO SKYDIVE
IN A WEEK!**

BEACH JUMPS

FREE CAMPING FACILITIES

TEAM ROOMS

OPEN YEAR ROUND

**iFLY WIND TUNNEL
ACCESSIBLE**

**COACHING AND ORGANIZING
FOR EVERY DISCIPLINE
AND SKILL LEVEL**

WWW.SKYDIVSEBASTIAN.COM

to enter at 'Senior' level this year. As usual, we are grateful to Adam George and his staff from InHouse Entertainments with various things laid on for the competitors to keep them occupied. Fish and Chip Night is planned for Wednesday evening, and will be washed down with plenty of free beer!

Our thanks go to the military display team *The Flying Tigers*, and especially to their commentator, who recently used the Caravan to jump into the annual Swansea Bay Air Show. Skydive Swansea got a shout out to the crowd, which was estimated to be 100,000-plus, many times over the two days.

Apart from Fay Yip and Danniella Hurt stepping up to join the packing team, there's not much news. So thanks to all those supporting the centre so far this year, and we look forward to seeing you all at Swansea in the future. It is, without doubt, one of the most scenic places to jump in UK!

Carl Williams

ACHIEVEMENTS CAT8/CH1 Daniel Maggs CH2/JM1 Daniella Hurt
FS1 Theo Hill, Daniella Hurt FF1 Sophie Rees
FF2 Aled Mason **JUMP NUMBERS 50** Daniella Hurt **500** Chris Fowler,
Laura Turner **2,000** Tanya Quigley



SWINDON

RISK A VERSE

The winds were up and down and a bit from side to side
Kept us on the ground as that'd be a bumpy ride
The sun came out, we kitted up, ready to go jump
Far too keen to let the weather put us in a slump.

Starting with the bad news, Laura landed wrong,
Still smiling, hopefully, she won't be out for long.
To avoid his disappointment, Dylan gets a mention.
He showed up, just the once, but no one paid attention.

We all enjoy a beer fine, as it turns up by the crate
But further fines are now owed as it was four years out of date!
Nice try, but it is not the way to keep the beer fridge stocked.
That sort of deviance and trickery will only get you mocked.

Proudly filling in our log books as of numbers we like to boast
But this month it is our pilot to whom we raise a toast
As Steve Phoenix quietly mentioned a milestone of his own.
That's three thousand lifts of jumpers that the man has flown.

Our Redlands team were in demand, on the move again
Flying to the Isle of Wight where it didn't even rain.
They claim that they were working but I think they lied
As the highlights were an ice cream and a pony ride.

I wish that there was evidence, perhaps in picture form
Of Brucie refusing to get in the sea, cause it wasn't warm.
He feared pain to his nipples, an excuse that is rather limp.
It turns out the big boss is really a big wimp!

Jenny Bouquet

ACHIEVEMENTS CH2/JM1 Bud Flint, Nicky Jackson FS1 Sophie
Harris FF1 Pat Holmes **JUMP NUMBERS 50**
Bud Flint, Nicky Jackson **200** Rayner Killingback **1,000** Aimee Southwell

TILSTOCK

HELLO FROM THE UPPER SIDE

This edition's highlight has to be Adele Collins getting her CAT8 after persevering with great fortitude to reach qualification status. She has had all sorts of hurdles to overcome, from the absurd to the ridiculous – she weighs little more than a feather, so any wind much stronger than a gentle puff grounded her – but her dedication has finally paid off. Well done, Adele!

Along with Adele, we have had another persevering student finally achieve a long-held goal when Andy Morgan got to first freefall six years after first jumping! It's a long story and worth an article in its own right, but well done Andy. Now you can crack on and get qualified.

Our other newly qualified skydivers are putting the jumps in and getting the newly rated Dan Cope busy with FS1 coaching jumps. The newly qualified Henna has got her FS1 already.

From Russia with Love? The dangerous expedition to Russia by some of our members seems to have gone off without international incident. However, the drink to jump ratio was really quite frightening. Given the strength of Russian alcohol, we fear for you all! It's going to be hard to top that for a long-distance skydiving destination – that is, unless someone fancies trying to find a DZ in China?

Our attempts at memorable ways to celebrate significant events in skydiving careers continue, with Roy Teague doing his 100th jump in his work clothes. Ordinarily that might not be that interesting but, as a serving police officer, this was a little more fun. Nice one Roy – just glad you didn't nick the pilot for flying with undue care and attention. Perhaps Buzz might consider a prize for the best outfit at the Christmas bash?

With the weather doing its best to disrupt anything and everything we plan, we have had a few chances to do some tidying up of the packing hall and public areas, take care of some roofing and do other work to improve the place. It's all well received, so grateful thanks to those who helped.

Between the disruptions, it was a delight to see the BPA Roadshow CF course go so well. Our club jumpers had a cracking day and thoroughly enjoyed the teaching and putting it into practice. Thank you, Gavin McLeod – come back and play again, there are more of us who would like to have a go!

We look forward to more of the same in September, when Tilly will hold a progression week – Midweek Mayhem. We hope to see more events to help us all progress in this sport we love.

Gary Windon

TILSTOCK
Tilstock's BPA CF
Roadshow, by
Dave Major

ACHIEVEMENTS FIRST FREEFALL Andy Morgan CAT8 Adele Collins
FS1 Piotr Czartolomny, Henna Niutananen **WS2**
Pete Dickens **JUMP NUMBERS 100** Roy Teague **400** Ellie Southworth
1,600 Roger Hughes **TWO HOURS IN FREEFALL** Gary Windon



WESTON

BUSY DAYS

It's been another busy few months at Weston-on-the-Green, starting with our Instructors Becky Hill and Freya Lees achieving Accelerated Freefall Instructor and Tandem Instructor status. Congratulations to both!

The staff at Weston have recently formed the display team *The RAF Eagles* and, with their first demo booked in for the end of July, the team have been training hard, getting their jumps in and working on their Accuracy landings.

A successful Intermediate Parachute Course saw all students achieve their first freefall jumps. James Greer progressed all the way to his CAT8 descent, but unfortunately missed out due to winds. Next time, buddy!

Due to the excellent weather we experienced during the Advanced Parachute Course, we had students progress to FS, FF and TR. We then had a great end to the two weeks of skydiving with a course big-way!

Freya Lees

ACHIEVEMENTS **FIRST FREEFALL** James Greer, Mark Lane, Paul Strickland **CAT8/CH1** Ash Grey-Smart **CH2/JM1** Dave Hankinson, Bobby Menarry **FS1** Chris Duffy, Dave Hankinson, Ollie Loak, Bobby Menarry, Ross O'Rourke **FF1** James Betts, Mat Winkler **TR1** James Betts, Chris Foster, Freddie Freeman, Ron Males, Arran Tilley **TR2** Chris Foster **JUMP NUMBERS** **100** Vicky Hocking **300** Arran Tilley **500** Mat Winkler **800** Freya Lees **1,000** Becky Hill

WILD GEESE

568 CC'S OF BEER, STAT!

With the usual unpredictability of Northern Ireland's weather, we've been hard at work exploiting whatever suitable days we've been lucky to be blessed with. Successful charity groups have been delighted with their 'big day', and hopefully we can continue to fulfil many more dreams for many more people.

“ We've also increased our pilot staff with the addition of Paul and Martin – welcome to the madhouse, guys! ”

Along with our new DZO, we have undergone some recent staff changes – most notably, our new Chief Instructor Andy Clark. It's an absolute pleasure to have him with us at Wild Geese and I know I speak for everyone when I say that we're really looking forward to working with him and learning from his extensive knowledge of the sport. Welcome aboard!

At club level, there have been some noteworthy milestones. Simon Huston has joined the elite ranks of the Tandem Instructors and loves it. Richard Walsh and Mark O'Kane completed their first freefalls and have made some superb progress. Jutta McNaulty has made 100 jumps. Neal Fitzpatrick has made 800 jumps and will soon be working towards his Tandem rating once he completes his training as a local train driver (don't mention leaves on the track!). Pete Lehane, a Wild Geese veteran, recently passed his CSBI rating and will have his hands full over the upcoming months. New cameraflyers are being trained and we've also increased our pilot staff with the addition of Paul and Martin – welcome to the madhouse, guys! Stuart Ryan made a very welcome return to DZ and got his knees in the breeze again after some time off. Levi Hamill has gained employment at another dropzone and there is no doubt that he'll put his skills to very good use. Best of luck, mate!

Static Line courses have seen a recent upsurge and long may it continue. Hopefully, if we can get a sustained period of decent weather, our new and existing category students can make some welcome progress.

Some of our club regulars recently undertook an Emergency First Aid at Work course, which was delivered by Denise Gourley of North West Community Ambulance Service. It was an extremely interesting and worthwhile course indeed and was very much appreciated by those who attended. We hope they pack parachutes better than they apply medical dressings, though!

So all that is left for us is to keep an eye on the weather forecast and make the most of whatever Mother Nature delivers. Hopefully we can even resurrect our much missed Display Team and thrill the audiences at many of our local public events. If you're planning a wee trip to Northern Ireland, please call in – we are always glad to see visiting skydivers and we'd love to see you.

WILD GEESE
Neal Fitzpatrick after his 800th jump along with the two beards who helped him to the landing circle, by Rafal

Until next time, Blue Skies, Soft Landings and, if you have to swoop, stay safe.

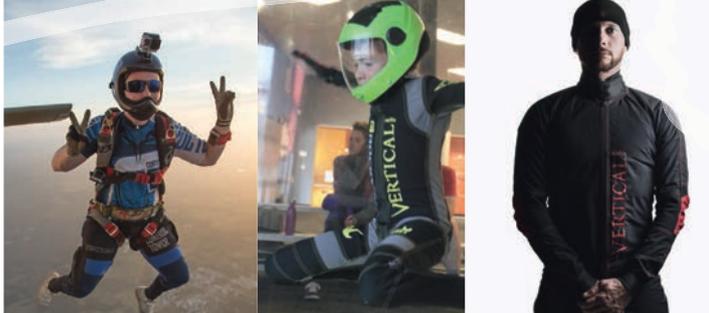
The Rep Team

ACHIEVEMENTS **JUMP NUMBERS** **100** Jutta McNaulty **800** Neal Fitzpatrick





10
YEARS
making the finest
flight suits



Experience
Passion &
Perfection



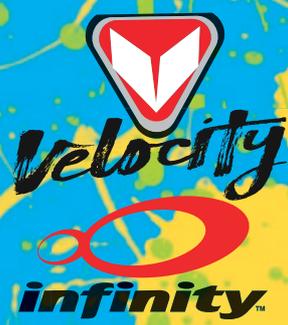
verticalsuits.com



Express Yourself!

let your
STYLE
be **FREE!!**
with
Infinity

custom
design
embroidery
quilting



ph 253.445.8790
email vse@velocityrigs.com
www.velocityrigs.com

The possibilities are **infinite.**

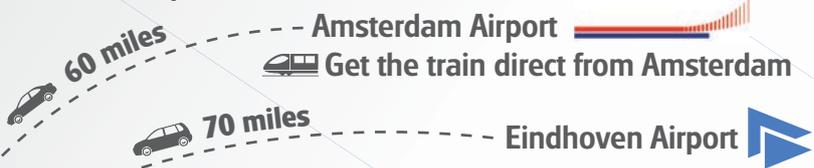
We eat Skydivers!



JUMP PRICE ONLY
£16
AMAZING TEAM DEALS

Come and jump from our two Supervans

- The largest parachuting centre in Western Europe
- Many courses and events
- Bunkhouse with 20 beds
- Skydiver Bar/Cafeteria



Nationaal Paracentrum Teuge

info@paracentrumteuge.nl
+31 55 323 1604 www.paracentrumteuge.nl

Get your products straight from our UK warehouse for quicker delivery and lower costs.



www.paraspport-skydive.co.uk
E: contact@paraspport-skydive.co.uk



AUSTRALIA

An endless summer
It's a lifestyle choice

SKYDIVE !

Learn to skydive, license
ready for English summer

Become an instructor
Qualifications recognised
worldwide



+61 2 6651 1167

coffsskydivers.com.au/endlesssummer



option
studios

PRO JERSEY CUSTOM

Custom Designed for YOU
Low Minimum Order Quantities
Dye-Sublimated - Vibrant Color
High Quality Moisture-Wicking Fabrics
Specifically Designed Pattern for Skydiving
Vented Side Panels - V-Neck Collar
Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve
Fast Delivery- Worldwide

**CUSTOM PULLUP CORDS - CUSTOM WINDBLADES
CUSTOM BANNERS - POLOS - GRAPHIC DESIGN
DECALS - APPAREL - WORLDWIDE SUPPLIER**

2015 Seventh Street NorthWest | Unit E
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102 USA
Voice: +1.505.352.7477 | Fax: +1.505.352.7527
www.OptionStudios.com
www.PullUpCords.com
Email: office@OptionStudios.com



Australia's Largest International

Freefall & Music Festival



20-28 October 2018

- TURBINE AEROPLANES
- COACHES & LOAD ORGANISERS
- NIGHTLY DAY TAPES, RAFFLES & ENTERTAINMENT
- EQUINOX TALENT QUEST • NIGHT JUMPS
- COCKTAILS AT THE POOL WITH LIVE MUSIC!

Famous For Fun!

skydive ramblers
* EQUINOX BOOGIE, TOOGOO LAWAH

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

Bev Suits



Quality, Dependability,
Durability, and
AWESOME
Customer Service!

Ordering On Line is Fast & Easy!! www.bevsuits.com
8398 Lyon Valley Road, New Tripoli PA 18066 USA
Phone/Fax 610-285-6994

TIKI BOOGIE

1st Sept – 4th Sept

Phone: 800-UGO-JUMP
Email: info@skydivenewengland.com

WWW.SKYDIVENEWENGLAND.COM




**Organising a big event?
Do you have
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**



**Service &
Repairs**



28 High Street
Whitchurch
Shropshire.
SY13 1AU
01948 662179

Dodington's Sports Instruments

**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**

£55

for advanced bookings in
August, October and December

SKYDIVING COMES TO INDIA!

NAMASTE FROM INDIA'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL
DROPZONE, SKYHIGH INDIA

NEW SEASON STARTS SEPTEMBER 2017- MARCH 2018

COME JUMP WITH US



Go Skydiving just two hours away from
India's National Capital, New Delhi.

(+91-9899953446) www.SKYHIGHINDIA.com

sky high
FEEL THE RUSH



AUGUST

August 2-4

S&A BPA Classic
Accuracy Nationals

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

August 5-6

A BPA Artistics and VFS
Coaching Roadshow

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

August 5-6

CP BPA CP Grand Prix

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

August 5-6

A BPA Speed Coaching
Roadshow

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

August 7-11

BPA Instructor Course
(CSBI/AFFBI/TBI/Advanced)

Location: **Headcorn** • headcorn.com

August 7-12

FS **A** **CF** World Cup and
European Championships in
FS, Artistics, CF and Speed

Location: **Saarlouis, Germany**

August 8

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **BPA HQ, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

August 12-13

A Intermediate VFS

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

August 13-14

CF BPA CF Coaching Roadshow

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

August 14-18

BPA Instructor Course
(CSI/Tandem/AFF)

Location: **Headcorn** • headcorn.com

August 19-21

FS BPA 4-way FS Nationals

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

August 24-31

S&A European Championships
in Style and Accuracy

Location: **Podgorica, Montenegro**

August 25-26

CP FAI Swoop Freestyle
World Championships

Location: **Copenhagen**

Red Devil Lee Crudgington
having fun on a demo
over London

August 26-28

FS **A** BPA 8-way, Artistics
and Speed Nationals and
BPA 4-way FS Nationals backup

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

SEPTEMBER

September 1-3

CP BPA Canopy Piloting
Nationals

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

September 2-4

FS **A** BPA 8-way, Artistics
and Speed Nationals backup

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

September 8-10

CF BPA CF Nationals

Location: **Black Knights** • bkpc.com

September 9-10

A BPA Artistics Coaching
Roadshow

Location: **Beccles**

September 11-15

BPA Instructor Course (Tandem/
AFF/Pre-Adv/Observers)

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

September 16-17

A BPA VFS Nationals

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

September 16-17

FS BPA Speed 8 Nationals

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

September 21

BPA STC Meeting

Location: **BPA HQ, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

September 21-24

FS ESL Finals

Location: **Saarlouis, Germany**

September 23-24

A BPA VFS Nationals
reserve weekend

Location: **Dunkeswell** • skydive99.com

OCTOBER

October 3

BPA BPA Council Meeting

Location: **BPA HQ, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

October 20-22

T World Indoor Skydiving
Championships

Location: **Laval, Quebec, Canada**

NOVEMBER

November 2-8

WS World Cup of Wingsuit Flying

Location: **Overton, USA**

November 6-10

BPA Instructor Course
(CSBI/AFFBI/TBI/Advanced)

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

November 13-17

BPA Instructor Course (CSI)

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

November 16

BPA STC Meeting

Location: **BPA Offices, Leicester** • bpa.org.uk

November 27-December 1

CP Canopy Piloting World Cup

Location: **Dubai, UAE**

Dates correct at
time of printing

KEY

BPA BPA EVENTS
CP CANOPY PILOTING
FS FORMATION SKYDIVING

CF CANOPY FORMATION
S&A STYLE AND ACCURACY
T TUNNEL

A ARTISTICS
WS WINGSUIT

MICRON

If you don't jump a **Vector**, you don't know.



ISO 9001:2008
CERTIFICATE No: 44070



www.uptvector.com

Tel: +1 (386) 736-7589

Fax: +1 (386) 734-7537

**UNITED PARACHUTE
TECHNOLOGIES**

Raymond Adams

Falling in **STYLE**



Get kitted out online at www.thomas-sports.com

TS
THOMAS SPORTS

WWW.THOMAS-SPORTS.COM

- Rigs • Altimeters • Mains • Headgear • Reserves •
- Goggles • Vigil 2 • Gloves • Airtec Cypres 2 •
- **Full rigging service available** •

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