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*Fiona McEachern
Memorial Issue*



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I have been jumping the new G2 Helmet for the last 6 months and used it in the 2010 Bedford competition. The vision on the new helmet is even better than the original GAS helmet. I feel like the new hardware and the latching system is the best on the planet for sure! Simple, easy to use and my favorite helmet so far!

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Fiona McEachern Memorial Jump, an 18-way phantom slot during the Equinox Boogie at Toogoolawah DZ, Queensland.
Photographer: Steve Fitchett
www.fitchimages.com



Fiona McEachern Memorial Jump, Mark Gazley swooping the pond at Langhorne Creek DZ, South Australia
Photographer: Erika Wiszniewski

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[asm details]

[Publisher]

Susie McEvoy
PO Box 178, Moffat Beach QLD 4551
Ph/Fax: 07 5444 1931
Email: susie@skydiver.com.au

[Design & Layout]

iGraphix
Amanda Hutchison
Ph: 07 5444 1931
igraphix@hotmail.net.au

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Gordon & Gotch Ph: 02 9972 8841

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The information in this magazine was, to the best of our ability, correct at the time of going to press. Production and mailing takes a total of 5 weeks, so some information may be out of date or superseded.

Photos submitted will be returned if supplied with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The parameters of the Australian Parachute Federation lie in sport

parachuting operations from aircraft and while the APF is aware that parachuting descents are being made from other than aircraft, APF rules do not cover these descents and the APF are not in a position to control them. Note: The ASM may include BASE jumping, providing the APF does not appear to condone the activity.

Pursuant to my contract with the APF in relation to the publication of Australian Skydiver Magazine, I am required to make a general statement about the nature of any pecuniary interest that I have in a particular brand of parachuting equipment, service or event being promoted in ASM. I am a Director of Toogoolawah Drop Zone Pty Ltd and I am a part-time employee of Ramblers Parachute Centre which organises various events and is a dealer for various equipment, some of which companies advertise in the ASM from time to time.

Being the Christmas issue, here in this Editorial I wanted to wrap up the wonderful year we've had jumping and talk up all the great achievements and developments. I'll have to let the pages tell all those stories because this space is reserved for Fiona McEachern - our Lady Di - the people's princess.

Along with hundreds, probably thousands of you I simply can't get over the passing of Fi. Three months later and everybody is still in a state of disbelief. We're all still feeling the same pain and crying the same tears. Fiona is throughout this issue, and if you are like me, each photo and mention of her name is a rude shock.

I don't think we've ever taken her for granted, but it is times like these that we stand back, take stock and value her moreso as we learn about her incredible legacy and what she has done for this sport, for you and for me. She's been our leading light in so many aspects, words fail me to describe the size and magnitude of the hole she has left.

And so, the one big question is, what now?

For such little feet they sure are big shoes to fill. Obviously there is no replacing Fi and if anything is to happen within our community, it is that we all have to toughen up, step up and take a feather from her cap. Fiona loved this sport with a driving passion and was one of its greatest ambassadors. She would want us to continue loving it too.

This issue has not been an easy one to compile. How does one pay tribute to her greatness without going overboard?

No doubt Fiona's achievements could fill the entire magazine, but there has to be a balance, besides, she would not want all the fuss and she would definitely want new faces featured in the mag. I hope you like what I've done.

Happy silly season and wishing you all blue skies and 5 knots for 2011.

Susie Mc



After a memorial jump. Photo: Steve Fitchett

Next Deadlines

5th January, 2011 5th March, 2011

Contributors

Charlotte Bennett-Hill
Xavia Bennett-Hill
Gigliola Borgnis
Susan Bostock
Kelly Brennan
Sonja Bruss
Don Cross
Greg Dore
Andrea Engler
Linsey Fitzpatrick
Hayden Galvin
Stu Gough
Jill Grantham
Kim Hardwick
Simon Hayter
Grahame Hill
Buwa Hill
Stewart Kemp
Elisabeth Ladi
Erin Matthews
Jules McConnell
Amy McDermott
Dave McEvoy
Douglas Mickle
Dave Morris
Ian Neubauer
Paul Osborne
Ronnie Perry
Lily Potger
Kieren Rundle
Kieron Selby
Bella Smart
The On Fires
James Throsby
Mike Tibbitts
Brad Turner
Michael Vaughan
Andy Vukovich
Emma Wald
Kelly Waller
Rod White
Candice Workman

Photographers

Matt Alison
Sarah Apalais
Butan
Tim Castle
Dave Cushing
Steve Fitchett
Andy Hardy
Angela Hiesler
Matty Hyland
Elisabeth Ladi
Erin Matthews
Phil McComb
Wayne McLachlan
Brett Newman
Ronnie Perry
Shane Pieschel
Kelly Waller

What's Your Style?

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afterlife boogie 2010

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BOOGIE BY THE SEA

By Steve Hill Photos by Brett Newman & Wayne McLachlan

This year's Afterlife Boogie was a massive success. We managed over 1,267 lobs in total through a wide range of disciplines including: wingsuiting, freefly, formation skydiving, atmonauti, tracking, tracing and canopy piloting.

The boogie managed 112 registrations, which was up again from the previous year proving that this wicked event is growing in stature every year on the Aussie calendar. We also had representation from a range of internationals including countries such as the Australian breakaway NZ (cuzi kiwi bros), New Caledonia, Canada, the U.K., Japan and the U.S.

This year, Afterlife concentrated on raising the skill sets with brilliant coaching from our highly experienced coaches. Hayden Galvin 5D ran first flight courses for the newbie birdies with the help of Pom and Throba. This led to some advanced flight courses mid-week and eventually the big bird ways towards the end of the boogie. Queen of the sky Fiona (we love and miss you), worked tirelessly with her protégé Stretch, to share their gifts with the formation skydiving groovers, which included some great moments with students and B-rellers. James Evered took the free flyers, passing the love and organising some really sweet big ways. Pony went on an angle and hung some traces for the speed demons, and of course, the eagle eye camera crew, you know who you are. The greatest feat of all, three kids under fourteen joining our ranks by completing their first ever tandem skydive. Can they ring the bell? Brett Newman, always happy to lend a hand and pass on the amazing amount of knowledge he has, was hard at work packing reserves after demonstrating, to the gaze of many, chops with his skyhook system.

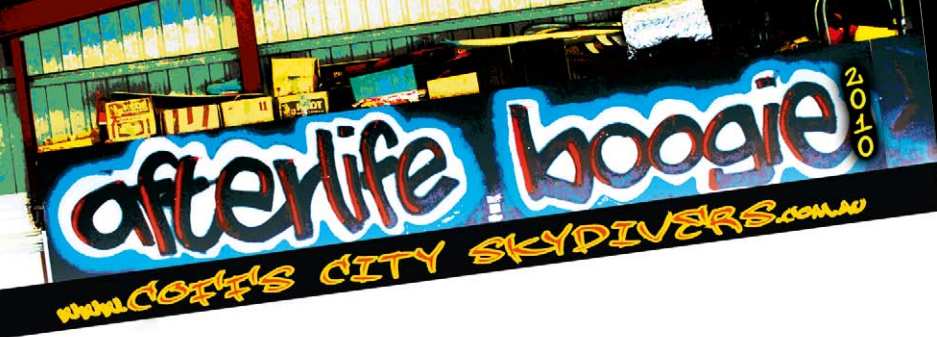
Vanessa completed her AFF thanks to Kevin McCarthy, her trusty JM who gave most of his boogie time to the students. Carly (I will win all the prizes) also came close and the girls are powering here now at home – good on ya chickies. Three students in total completed their AFF whilst four finished their B-Rels including the Grafton boys, Izzy and Troy; and a swag of Star Cresters went home shinning.

The best jump of my life, my 5,000th was to be the start of a weekend to remember. Taking my baby daughter Charlotte for her first ever tandem at ten years of age, whilst watching Bretto and my supa son Xavia from, let's say, close range. We had a swag of tag alongs on that one. Shhhh! Thanks Wayno for the classic snaps!

Sunday was our big day. We had organized a skydive spectacular for the public over the harbour in Coffs. We had TV crews, reporters, stalls, and truck loads of spectators all with their eyes skyward. We launched a 16 way wingsuit flock filling the air with orange smoke. The demo was awesome and made the national news that night. We had ordered eighty smoke flares for the spectacular which also included a big way formation and a big way atmo, all pumping out of the Skyvan. The swoop boys graced the crowd with a hoppie from our trusty TXI and burned some fat rooster tails across the calm waters of the bay. Tony Maurer jumped a massive Aussie flag to the chant of Aussie, Aussie, Aussie, Oi, Oi, Oi.

It was to be the talk of the town for weeks.





What about the parties? There were two SMOKIN' major nights at Afterlife this year. The first being at our local major sponsor – the Hog's Breath Café. A school bus arrived at seven to collect us and we hit the town for a Deepseed cocktail night. The patrons had a glimpse of how to lift the roof off a restaurant skydive style. We dazzled them with day tapes and table dancing not to mention the pig rootin' that went on with Hoggie at the bar. Thanks to all who participated. It was a blast for Amy and Justin, the owners of Hoggies, who claim they will be in again for 2011.

Saturday night was our fancy dress 9-11 party where we managed to – wait for it – have 100 skydivers totally silent for one whole minute (a world FIRST), in tribute to all lost in the tragedy. Once we had paid our respects, it was time to judge the best dressed. The costumes were awesome with some creating masterpieces, many having only a few hours and very ordinary equipment to work with. As ever Alana Bertram blew us all away to take out the best dressed hands down.

Our sponsors this year were simply awesome giving us a massive prize pool that just kept getting better every night. How's this for cool – 60% off an Icarus canopy, a complete container, audibles, sunnies, helmets, jumpsuits, 50% off another container, millions of t-shirts and that's just some of it. A BIG thanks to Icarus Canopies and the boys, Downward Trend, Cookie Composites, Karnage Krew, Deepseed, PA, Cypress, Spirit Skysports, Sydney Skydivers (the box), Coffs City Council, Coffs Coast Tourism, Hog's Breath Cafe and After life Extreme Sports Clothing!

To our crew at Coffs City Skydivers who worked their butts off for months, as those of you who put on boogies know, thank you, thank you thank you, it could not happen if it weren't for you! To Deb Manifest, Annie Hill and Noels in the office, without you it would have been total chaos. Thanks gals.

AFTERLIFE went out to the nation this year with the biggest media campaign ever. We hit national news spots, national news papers, local TV, radio and print media, in-flight and airport mag (we managed to strap the reporter and camera dude up for a job, she loved it so much she went again) then a documentary with Fuel TV, to mention but a few. We showcased our sport to the nation and hopefully entice some of those punters into strapping themselves to one of us for the ride of a lifetime. Maybe even bring the odd one to the dark side, buwhahahaha!

So again, to all our brothers and sisters who had the arduous task of taking the best part of a week off work and forcing themselves to come and play at the playground by the sea, good on ya guys n gals. You made it ROCK!

And then there was ARCHIE... use your imagination.



FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES

By Lilly Potger

It was just a normal Friday afternoon, the day before I was meant to be doing my skydive. Mum said we were going to visit Dad at the Coffs AFTERLIFE boogie. We arrived and people were saying things like "let's get suited up" and, "are you excited Lil?" I thought they just had the date wrong but unknown to me they had it right. Then Dad said "you're doing your skydive now!" I was so shocked I fell to the floor. The feeling was like butterflies but scared and excited all at the same time.

After suiting up and being briefed by my tandem master Tony Vidler, we stepped into the plane and I told myself "no turning back now, this is it". When the door opened I felt a rush of excitement run through me and before I knew it my mouth went dry and I was looking at the most beautiful sight, the whole of Coffs Harbour below me and at that point I knew I was flying. Then suddenly someone grabbed my hand I looked up to see my Dad kissing me. Then as the canopy opened they were gone and we were slowly drifting through the air. We had a very soft landing and I was greeted with a hug from my excited Dad and my very nervous mum. Thanks to everybody who was involved in letting me have this life changing experience - Tony, Coffs City Skydivers and the APF - it was amazing and I am so doing it again!!!



By Xavia Bennett-Hill

The day I went skydiving was one of the best days in my life! It was so cool, I was 13 and my Dad took me for a tandem out of a Skyvan at the Afterlife Boogie. Going up in the plane was scary until I got to fly it. When the door opened I was so scared but Dad decided a backflip would be cool, so out I went. Freefall was AMAZING and when the canopy opened I got to fly that too. We did some spirals, that was the part I loved the most under parachute. Dad surprised me with a hook turn over the buildings where my family was watching and I yelled "holy s**t" and then we swooped across the grass and landed. I went for a second tandem a few days later on my 14th birthday with another professional skydiver, Brett Newman, and jumped right next to my little sister aged 10 who was with my Dad, Steve (Hilly) Hill. It was the best birthday present ever and I got to fly a specialised tandem canopy, an Icarus 285 cross brace, which was one of the only two in existence!



By Charlotte Bennett-Hill

I think that skydiving was awesome and it was the best thing ever. It was so fun and my favourite thing was definitely the freefall - it feels like you are floating on water but you can't feel the water. I also liked being the second youngest female in Australia to jump. I was actually really scared before I went but my family built my confidence and I am so glad I did it. Lucky my family was there. I am so happy I went with my Dad because he got to share the amazing experience with me and nobody could have done it better. I also liked jumping out of the biggest skydiving plane in Australia, the Skyvan. I really enjoyed the experience of skydiving, again it was awesome. Well for all the people who are wanting to go but are too scared, just go, otherwise you will regret it!!



Heads in the Clouds

By Ian Neubauer

“It’s better to have jumped and lived than not to have lived at all.”

“Are you cheating on me?” she muttered, her eyes narrowing in on me. “Ever since that Coffs Harbour trip,” she continued, “You’ve been acting, well, weird.”

She was right. Not about cheating on her. I hadn’t. But weird? Well, if weird equals happy, then yes. Guilty as charged. I felt like Brad will feel when he finally escapes Angelina. I’d started living my life. At 33, I was taking some risks and I was loving it.

Two days ago I wouldn’t drink milk the day after its expiry date but now I’d gulp it down as if cows were going out of fashion. Two days ago I’d have been tucked up by 9pm on a Monday night but last night I gate-crashed a Channel 9 function, necking tequilas with Eddie McGuire until the Tuesday sun came up. Two days ago I wouldn’t let the boss go to answer machine but now I let that bastard wait, along with said girlfriend who needs money for shoes and wants to talk about ‘us’. Yawn.

You see, two days ago I was a pussycat, but now I’m a lion. Let me tell you what happened in Coffs.

“Meet Fiona” he said, with an obvious Australian twang defying his nickname of ‘Pom’.

I make a mental note to find out about Pom’s name, but not now. Now I needed to give Fiona my full, pent-up attention.

Fiona McEachern is as charming as anyone you’ll ever meet. She is softly spoken, almost shy, but with a confident underbelly. A grin lurks beneath as she speaks, an inner glow that intrigues and defies her exterior. “I’m a vet by trade,” she tells me, “Well, part-time anyway.” It’s the other ‘part’ that grabs me. “I’ve also completed around 7400 skydives.”

Say what?

It was Thursday morning when I took the call from my editor, not letting it go to voicemail, because I was still a pussycat then. “I need you to go to Coffs Harbour. Australia’s best skydivers are getting together for a week of record attempts and displays. They call it a ‘Boogie’. We’ll also get you to jump out a plane.”

Say waaaaaa?

And there I was. Whisked off into a plane, and now sitting across from one of the world’s best female divers, one of 2500 registered in Australia and breaker of the

Australian record with 112 of her buddies in June this year, waiting for my call to go tandem. It was all a bit surreal. But as Fiona explains, it’s not often your choice to go skydiving, more often than not skydiving chooses you. “I met this guy,” she says, laughing. “Bloody men. He was performing at a demo event like this and I hung around the dropzone for two days praying for rain. Twenty-six years later I now instruct flat flying (or belly to earth to the lay ‘feet on the ground’ man)”.

It’s been a long week for these guys at Coffs City Skydivers and, as the sun basks down on us, just next to the drop zone, our conversation is drowned out by a plane taking groups of instructors and trainees into the blue yonder. It’s then I realise, my stomach dropping, that the weather isn’t going to save me either. One of many instructors here this weekend, Fiona is teaching two to three students at a time about formations. It’s not only record attempts but a chance for progressing divers to clock up some air miles and learn from the best in the business.

“If you wanted to learn tennis you wouldn’t get Lleyton Hewitt to teach you,” Pom explains to me later. “But in skydiving that is exactly what happens... you learn from the best.”

What I start to realise, as I hang out watching instructors coming back from jumps four, five and six of the day is that this crazy stuff is safe. “To get in that aircraft you have to be significantly trained,” explains Fiona. “It’s one of the most regulated sports around. I’ve had five malfunctions in 26 years, but rather than worry, you get excited because you get to practise what you train for.”

As if on cue, an instructor lands with his reserve chute deployed. As part of a demo he’d cut his normal chute loose 800 feet from the ground, some 200 feet lower than was deemed safe.

“He was just showing how quickly it can be done,” Pom later explains.

As day becomes night we all gather in the plane hangar to skull some well-earned cold ones and watch the day’s highlights on video. While not earned, my beer-sculling fools a few into thinking I’m one of them. I’m not – hell no – but as the ales flow I’m mixing better than a Kenwood and feel as welcome as Bono at The Edge’s nana’s house. Following a hectic day, my jump will be tomorrow morning now, says Steve Hill, the owner of the place. This prolongs both my agony and excitement.

As chutes are tucked away around us with meticulous precision. It’s a fascinating process to watch, even on the 10th viewing. The screen shows a chute tangle mid dive, and the instructor swivels to untangle, and then comes a big cheer. They’re trained for stuff like that I remind myself, praying that mine opens normally. The music cranks, and two guys are flying like bits of bread in an empty, but far from boring sandwich, with one facing up the other facing down while both travel at 200km/h. Cool stuff. Then something weird – two guys flying feet down like two dudes squaring one another up.

“What the hell is that?” I blurt. “James does that,” Pom explains. “You can chat to him tomorrow.”



The next morning I meet James Evered. Made redundant in 1996 from his arborist job in Melbourne, James got into the industry in 1998, working the Boogie circuit and teaching divers until 2005. Coming full circle, like one of his aerial manoeuvres, he's now climbing trees in Brisbane. Movies such as the James Bond stable and Point Break inspired this Val Kilmer lookalike, and with images of chasing parachutes and potential stunt-double roles for him, I couldn't wait to find out more. "It wasn't so much the stunt," he corrects my brain. "It was more about the scenery. In a plane you get a little window, but in freefall you get the world."

James has completed 7500 jumps in some of the world's most beautiful countries. He once landed on a beach in Vietnam to the bemusement of the locals witnessing their first festival. You can only imagine the joys stored in his brain. Formations and the scenery is what it's all about for most of these guys. "If you want thrills, go base jumping, it's a totally different sport," I remembered Fiona saying yesterday.

Free flying, as James explains, is his discipline of choice, although he is skilled in the others.

It's a relatively new area in the sport, and the fastest of the disciplines with divers reaching speeds of between 250-300 km/h, flying head or feet first.

Like Fiona, James is one of Australia's finest, setting a world record in July 2009 with 108 people flying vertically down. The logistics were incredible. "The planes were at 18,000 feet, so we had oxygen masks," he explains, "When everyone started charging out at speed it looked like a swarm of bees converging." On the seventh jump they did it, scoring the record.

The next morning, as I stand on the beach after my jump, I'm still in shock. My main man, Lawrence, aka Pom, is up on the promenade keeping everyone informed as incoming divers with beautiful paint streams trailing from their ankles land on the beach. "This is the third year we've held the Boogie," he says. "The public feel a bit removed from skydiving so we've tried to put it in a format where people can experience the sport and chat to the divers."

One of the few self-professed adrenaline junkies, Lawrence came over from England as a backpacker, finding work as a scuba instructor. But even as a kid he was tackling speedway, whitewater rafting and mountaineering, which still excite him. "Next year we'll have more events for the public to enjoy such as motocross, jet skiing and the scuba guys might put on an underwater photography competition," he says. At 42, he's a member of the current 13-way Aussie wingsuit record. "It's a new discipline but the capacity is massive," he explains. "You can chase each other but it's not just two dimensions. You can build 3D shapes of pyramids, or cubes of people."

Pom recalls stories about quiet housewives on their first jumps. "Some of them swear like troupers. It's hilarious. When they get on the ground they get embarrassed and realise their kids are going to see the video."

And it isn't just the housewives that get a shock. "People get a reality check. They realise they have been worrying about stuff that doesn't really matter on the grand scheme of things. If they overcome the challenge of a skydive they will approach other challenges in their lives a little differently."

To this end, Steve & Lawrence are planning a personal development work program called Soul Flyers, incorporating skydiving and life coaching.

"In life people can get quite negative but around a bunch of skydivers everyone is positive. So we hope to help people, through skydiving. If you spend your life in your comfort you'll never discover what you are capable of!"

An hour earlier, strapped to my tandem master, Tony, I ask him if anyone ever bails. "No!" sounds a lot like "Go!" as he screams over my shoulder, the plane's door opening and a massive, face-changing blast of wind assaulting us. Three guys somersault into nothingness. Three life-changing minutes and 14,000 feet later, I decide that I've found a metaphor to live by for the rest of my life. And the first thing to 'Go!' will be that dull, high-maintenance girlfriend of mine. I just hope she knows how to fly solo actually!



afterlife boogie 2010
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RODNEY MILLAR



MICHAEL SUTER



CHRIS McDONALD



ADAM BENNETT



CHAMINDA SENADHIRA

"This Hybrid jump at the Coffs Afterlife Boogie was dedicated to the lads we lost in the horrific Fox Glacier skydive crash in New Zealand recently. The skydiving instructor victims were Skydive Director Rodney Miller, 55 (Greymouth), pilot Chaminda Senadhira, 33 (Queenstown), Adam Bennett, 47 (from Australia but living in Motueka), Michael Suter, 32 (New Plymouth), and Christopher McDonald, 62 (Mapua). The four tourists who died were Patrick Byrne, 26 (Ireland), Glen Bourke, 18 (Australia), Annita Kirsten, 23 (Germany) and Brad Coker, 24 (England)." **Lisa Chambers**





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Nitro Circus - New Zealand 2011

1. Saturday, February 5th - North Harbour Stadium, Auckland
2. Wednesday, February 9th - Westpac Stadium, Wellington
3. Saturday, February 12th - Waikato Stadium, Hamilton
4. Wednesday, February 16th - AMI Stadium, Christchurch
5. Saturday, February 19th - Carisbrook Stadium, Dunedin

Nitro Circus - Australia Regional 2011

1. Wednesday, March 9th - Lavington Panthers Oval, Albury
2. Saturday, March 12th - Energy Australia Stadium, Newcastle
3. Wednesday, March 16th - Canberra Stadium, Canberra
4. Saturday, March 19th - Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford
5. Wednesday, March 23rd - WIN Stadium, Wollongong
6. Saturday, March 26th - Dairy Farmers Stadium, Townsville
7. Wednesday, March 30th - Mackay Show Grounds, Mackay
8. Saturday, April 2nd O Skilled Stadium, Gold Co



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GO TROPPO 2

By Strop, Ronnie, Gdore & Kieren

I GUESS IF THERE'S ONE WAY TO DESCRIBE GO TROPPO 2010, THE WORD 'BITTERSWEET' COMES TO MIND. IT WAS THE BEST GO TROPPO BOOGIE PRODUCED TO DATE FROM THE FAR NORTH FREEFALL STABLES. THE BITTER PILL BEING THAT IT WAS FIONA'S LAST TIME TO GRACE US WITH HER AMAZING PRESENCE.

On a rainy Tuesday we started thinking the weather might spoil the day however, the sun shined and the boogie was on! We had planes in the air and smiles on all faces.

The coaches this year really did an amazing job and were of a world standard. The FS coaches, Fiona McEachern and Allan Moss, were on the job and were amazing, as usual, at getting people in the sky. Once again the famous (Irish) Ronnie Perry canopy school delivered amazing and professional canopy training to all levels of canopy flight. The freefly was well catered for with super star (Canadian) Micky Nutall delivering a very professional and cutting edge freefly program; and Joorj who ripped it up with all at the beginner and intermediate skill level.

Wednesday rolled around and we defied the weather prediction with a late start. It was a great day getting lots of loads up in between the rain. For the rest of the week that's the way it pretty much rolled, amazing everyone with the quality and quantity of jumps done.

4-way FS

The flat flyers got off to a cruisy start with two Inter and two Open teams. Fiona and Mossy led the way coaching our teams through two brilliant rounds of competition. Ayrchix: Ziggy, Sonja, Karen and Neats, took out first place in the Intermediate section. The Open section was scooped up by Paul O, Mick Hardy, Jonny Goss and Fiona. Great work between all the teams in the way they bonded and showed strength in such tough times. All the teams had the honour to be graced by Fiona's amazing touch.

Canopy School

After a couple of weeks of taking bookings for another Go Troppo canopy school we were set to go with most days assigned a theme such as Boogie warm up day, A,B,C licence preference day, Swoopers Saturday & Ladies day.

It was the usual format of a quick briefing at the start of the day to sort out wing loadings, exit orders and goals. Everyone was asked to show their normal style of approach and landing – an assessment jump if you will with all the landings being videoed. For some it was the first time they'd had their landings videoed. With hundreds of jumps and countless amounts of freefall footage it is shocking that this could be the case. On a regular day there are a bazillion cameras on the DZ so next time take one onto the landing area and get videoing!

There were the usual classic landing faux pas of reaching for the ground, not finishing the flare, unpredictable circuits and strange harness positions! Following each landing the group packed, rehydrated and had a video de-brief - keeping it nice & simple when giving people changes to make – one change at a time makes it easier for them to remember and see the true effect of that change.

Ladies day, as usual, was the first day to book out. It was good to see a whole team come to school. Nice work by the Ayrchix girls – well most of them! Nearly all of the girls have done canopy school before and it shows – an excellent display of good solid flying basics under canopy.





Chelsea



Joh Bekker



Fiona



Noodle



Ben Spanwise collapse



Fatboy

There were the usual weather holds during the boogie, so time for lots of classroom stuff and theory including a 'School field trip'. We went to check out places to land off with an emphasis on making decisions early which will allow enough time to assess the alternative landing area chosen.

Yet again another successful Go Troppo canopy school. A big thanks to the NQPC for the funding to give people the chance to have their landings videoed, de-briefed and achieve real progress with their canopy flying skills.

Canopy Piloting Competition

The Canopy Piloting Competition was split into Open and Intermediate categories for the first time this year and was run under international rules with 14 competitors – 7 in Open and 7 in Intermediate.

As there was no pond, the course was set up over ground with only four jumps in the competition. For the Open class there were two Distance rounds and two Zone Accuracy rounds. The Inter consisted of four accuracy jumps only.

While in the United States earlier this year training with Scott Roberts (next year's canopy coach), I picked up a few ideas he had about setting up a course for training which seems to work really well if you don't have a pond.

Participants just need to be a little more careful without the safety of the water – it's great for training and competition practice.

So with that in mind, participants in the Open had to enter the 5ft gates and drag a toe over markers on the ground. The markers moved when scored making it easy for the Judge. They then had to stop within the accuracy area to gain their full points. With a head wind over 10 knots for the competition, a few of the Open jumpers would have gone swimming if there was any water about, but there were still some good scores put on the board. I'd still be drying out :)

In the Inter comp, the rules were changed slightly. There were no water scoring gates, though participants still had to fly the line of the course with no vertical extension. All points were scored in the accuracy pit making it possible for all experience levels to participate. The decision to compete in the Open or Inter was left to the jumper, as both courses were a challenge. Nevertheless, participants wanting to compete in the Open had to have approval (from myself and Ronnie – our canopy piloting coach) to ensure they had sufficient experience and/or a proper briefing on how to attempt the course over ground.

For a lot of the jumpers, this was their first competition. They performed exceptionally well while learning most of the rules as they went. Safety was impeccable with all competitors and we had a lot of great feedback on the course. It was a fun and relaxed environment with everyone learning heaps. I think I learnt the most as it was the first time I had run a competition. With so many different skill levels to accommodate for, it was challenging but very enjoyable – and yes, I did buy my beer :). If anyone is keen to learn about the course or help organise some mini competitions throughout the year, then let me know. We might even try to get some sort of swoop league going on around the country.



NQ Championships GO TROPPO 2



Freefly

The freefly discipline was very well attended by all skill levels. The advanced participants mainly concentrated on vertical sequentials and Micky Nutall, fresh from winning the U.S. VFS Nationals, led the way with a fresh approach to the discipline that is VFS. The advanced group pushed the limits all week and achieved some very high quality skydives. Joorj did a fantastic job of coaching all the intermediate and beginner freeflyers. The level of talent and the progression of skill amongst Joorj's crew was truly standout.

After a great week to hone our skills, competition day was upon us. After much discussion between the participants and coaches we decided to adopt an overall format which included all skill levels. The VFS discipline was a 2-way competition. It was a great success as it really promoted involvement from all comers. It involved the coaches, Gdore, Erica, Mickey, Crikey, Strop, Joorj, Pup and Bec teaming up with the Novice/Intermediate Freeflyers. Sharing their skills and knowledge they formed the largest Freefly competition that Far North Freefall had ever seen. An amazing 15 teams competed. Outstanding work from everyone.

The bitter pill was the fact that the competition was never fully completed as

we lost our 'mother in the sky'. After the competition was halted, we had to break for mutual consolation and take the time to regain our composure. We grieved for what we had lost. Part of this grieving process was getting two more loads in the air to celebrate Fiona's life and all she had given us.

Big thanks must go out to Steve Lewis who was an inspiration to all by delivering truly inspirational counselling and getting loads in the air. Paul Osborne for doing a very good job of being DZSO for the week and your leadership under very difficult circumstances. All the coaches, Micky, Joorj, Ronnie, Mossy, and Fiona, awesome job. Izzy for a kick ass Day Tape achieved whilst possessing a bun in the oven! Day tapes are now available. Crash for doing a superb job of judging the whole event. Hats off to manifest, to Alli and Weanie Dore for saving the day. We would also like to thank the NQPC, APF, Cookie, Altimaster, Gravity Calls, Way Cool, Downward Trend and PD Canopies for their sponsorship and continual support. Many more thanks to Pup, Longie, Gdore, Brown, Pilots Carl and Ben and everyone else who helped make Troppo a success. Cheers!

Fiona.... You will always be in our hearts. We love you. xox



Competition Results

Open Swoop

- 1st – Ben Lewis
- 2nd – Brad Jones
- 3rd – Kieren Rundle

Inter Swoop

- 1st – Pauly Behan
- 2nd – Bart Edwards
- 3rd – Chelsea Stevens

Open 4-way FS

- 1st – On Track

Inter 4-way FS

- 1st – Ayrchix
- 2nd – Sinkers
- 3rd – Ayr Monkeys

Inter Freestyle

- 1st – Josie Symons
- 2nd – Steph Lafleur
- 3rd – Glen Hoyes



My trip to Australia

When Izzy contacted me to ask if I would be interested in returning to Australia to organise at the Go Troppo Boogie, I was excited to say the least. The dates of the event were after the U.S. Nationals so I was able to commit to it. I have made so many good friends there and my first visit in 2008 was amazing. This time was no different. When I was picked up at the airport in Cairns, I was told we might be rained out all week. Obviously this was not what I wanted to hear as sitting on the ground talking about skydiving is something that should only be done when the sun goes down with a beer in hand.

Luckily, Mother Nature must have felt pity on us, as we jumped every day of the event! It started a bit slow the first day making only three or four loads, but afterwards I was able to make about ten jumps a day! The talent level since I was there last has really grown and we were consistently doing multiple point 8-way VFS, dives. I have been fortunate to work with several of the guys at tunnel camps in the U.S. and they make organising a breeze. I brought two rigs for this trip and was backing most of the big way jumps up with one-on-one coach jumps, and jumping with intermediate level groups. The energy of the group in the far north is so awesome and really makes being an organiser very enjoyable. I made some very memorable jumps and made some really good friends. The boogie was finished up with a competition with the more experienced jumpers doing a two-way VFS jump with the less experience jumpers. It was a huge success. Everyone learned a lot and had a really good time.

One night I had the pleasure of talking with Fiona McEachern about the World Meet in Russia. She had some really good questions about the future of VFS and what I thought about it. We talked late into the night and I spent a good part of the time trying to convince her to tell me where the next World Meet would be. She would not even give me a hint. She did, however, educate me on the process of the FAI which, as a competitor, had me very intrigued. Sadly, she was gone the next day. Our sport suffered a tremendous loss that day, felt around the world. Australia in particular suffered a loss of an incredible person, and a role model for skydiving they can be proud of. I will miss her, but am thankful for the conversation we had.

My trip concluded with a boat ride out to the reef for some spear fishing, a day spent on Dunk Island, a visit to Dore's cane farm, a visit to Flegler's banana farm, and even to a crocodile farm! I had an amazing stay on an amazing continent with truly amazing people. I can only hope I make it back sooner than the last time and reunite with all my Aussie friends. I suggested to Strop that we should organise an Aussie Vertical record next year... We shall see...

Mickey Nuttall
hybridoc@mac.com



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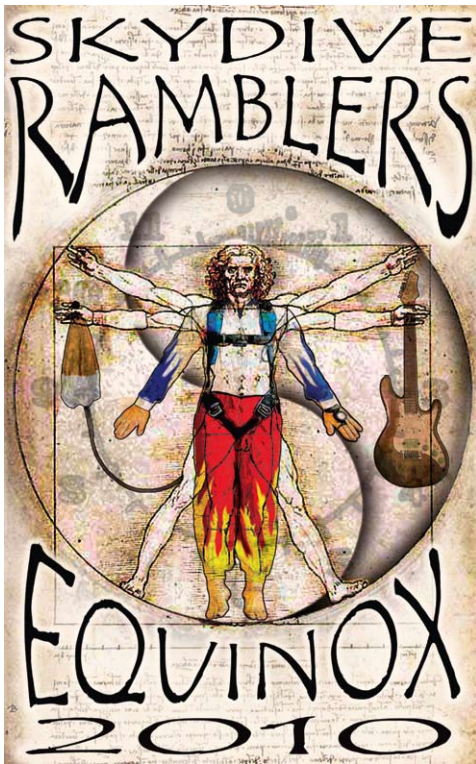
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There I was, thought I was in Heaven

By Dave McEvoy

I had a ball at the 2010 Equinox after it started. There was good weather, good people and good jumps. Jump-wise there wasn't anything too spectacular as we only had two turbines this year, Sydney's Skyvan and our new Caravan. They hardly stopped. Actually I don't think the Skyvan did stop!

I say, "after it started" because immediately before it started the weather was a shocker, and for weeks before. The planned public Rock Concert had to be cancelled (along with every other event in Queensland that weekend!) but the show still went ahead that night for the jumpers in the Turkey Hut. What a concert! Top bands just for us! And the next day the jumping started. It had stopped raining but the landing area was soaked. There were some entertaining landings for the first few days, which made for some fun laughter during the day tapes.

The day tapes! They were the best Elad and his Cave team have put together yet. Superbly edited skydiving footage was matched up with the music from the bands at the concert. Most of the band members did a tandem. They all raved about it. I'll bet there are some "Video Hits" around soon featuring skydiving.

The week went really well. Dave Morris ran a tight ship of large flatways, Gi did jump after jump of large Atmonauti, Crikey and the free fliers didn't stop, the wingsuits didn't land off-drops too often and all the starcresters kept having a go at taking out eight-ways. They were great days, every one. There were only three incidents, a broken foot, a broken hand and an opening collision that ended with line burns and a damaged shoulder. Lucky!

But what a week. The highlights after the jumping were; great music every night, the Meteor Men night display, the day tape, the raffles and the Talent Night. What a show. There are some musically talented skydivers out there, and some crazily entertaining ones! And Harvey.

Then before you knew it, it was all over. Next Equinox in 2012 will be our tenth. There's a lot happening between now and then: Skysisters, Territory Rel Week, Nationals and boogies at Sydney, other big boogies around the country at Nagambie, Coffs Harbour and Go Troppo. So with all this boogie activity I sometimes wonder if there is the demand for another Equinox Boogie? YES is the answer to that!

Thanks to the APF and the Queensland Events Corporation for their financial support. Thanks to Phil for the Skyvan. Thanks again to the fantastic team of volunteers and staff who made Equinox 2010 such a great success.

"MOOI MOOI MOOI"





STATS	
No. of Jumpers:	241
No. of Australians:	202
No. of Internationals:	39
No. of Countries:	14
No. of Jumps:	3948
No. of Organised Jumps:	241
No. of Loads:	245



“Mooi, Mooi, Mooi - great atmosphere, great people, great jumps, great parties! It was my first Nox and I definitely will come back! “Mooi” is a Dutch word that means “great, nice, ...” so most likely we say mooi, mooi, mooi when something great happens. So actually, the whole Nox was mooi, mooi, mooi :)”

Grim, from freezing Belgium!



“ Thanks again for an absolutely incredible Equinox Boogie. I thought there was no way it could be better than the last one, but it was. The weather was perfect and I was up early for the first loads. The variety of jumps was amazing - big way flat, freefly, atmonauti, crew, wingsuit, night jumps, raft jumps, not to mention the youngsters doing Brels and Star Crests. The coaches were great, especially Gigliola, I learnt heaps from the video debrief of each jump and was flat out running to the cave with yet more footage of awesome atmonauti formations. The evening's day tape was both hilarious and inspiring. The bell rang continuously with firsts - first wingsuit formation, first formation load big way, first atmonauti foot dock. The silly grins on the bell ringers faces said it all. The raffle was great with some very cool prizes and I heard the bands were rocking but I was in bed by then! See you next year for Skysisters, I hope.
Douglas Mickle, Spirit Skysports ”



“I had a really great time at Equinox - good jumps, good weather and good atmosphere on the ground ... is true that Ramblers is FAMOUS FOR FUN!!!!”

Gigliola Borgnis,
www.atmonauti.com





Rev up, remove the chox, coz Nox rocks!

By Dave "Bing Bong" Morris

This time, my fourth Nox, I am greeted by a green and pleasant land. The rain rained and rained but was kind enough to stop when I arrived. So no jokes this time about the UK weather!

Nox is a boogie that should be a 'must' in every skydivers list of boogies to attend. A skydive Disney Land by day and night. All disciplines represented to a very high level, you name it, it was happening.

Skydives that impressed me were the Meteor Men during the night jumps who seem to improve the show every boogie, two formation skydives, a two point 18-way where most were facing out and a complicated 14-way compress based formation. Two skydives I was honoured to be asked to arrange were the missing slot 16-way for Fiona McEachern and Darryl Norris's ashes release, which both went perfectly if emotionally charged.

The evenings were always busy with the raffle draws and quality day tapes, it was so good to see Archie back and those first rate live bands.

I always come back from Nox quite broken and need a few days to recover, but believe me it's worth it. Maybe I should miss out on the traditional night at the pub on Sunday... erm, no chance!

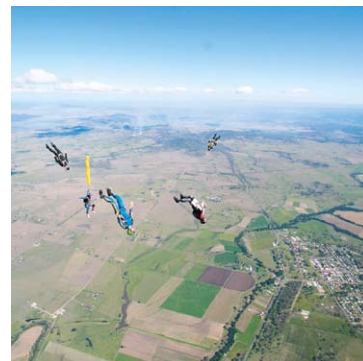
I know I have said it before but this a special place run by special people who know how to hold a party - 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010 I have become part of the family and it really is a great family to be part of. In Macca's words "The gigs yours as long as you want it", so I have my invite for 2012 so see you there.

“I'd like to say thank you to SD and Equinox for giving me the opportunity to do my First Flight Course. Wing suiting is something I have always dreamed of doing and my experience at the Equinox Boogie would not have been the same without it.

Doing my course on a new drop zone was intimidating. I was nervous about having to navigate the flight circuit on my first flight but Hayden's ground training and performance in the sky was instantly reassuring. Knowing he was capable of flying on his back under me to direct me along the flight path if need be and stick with me throughout the jump really helped me relax and assured me that I was in good hands.

The flight was an amazing experience, there really is nothing else like it.”

Bella Smart





A Flocking Good Time at Nox

By Kieron Selby

Wing Suiting is where I have found my true passion within skydiving. Pretty much if the sky is clear to navigate, I am Wing Suiting. I came to Equinox 2010 with big aspirations, goals and ideas, most of which were met. I had planned to do 50 jumps during that period and I managed to complete 39 Wing Suit jumps in the 9 day period that included 2 ½ weather days.

With the coming together of a large amount of skydivers at an event like Equinox, there was bound to be a large amount of people who walk on the dark side (what some people call wing suiting). We started in small 3 or 4 person groups to work out everyone's flying skills and suit capabilities. There were skydivers there with as little as 7 Wing Suit jumps and with a few pointers they were holding their own in bigger formations. We started running large tight diamond formations which is harder than it looks. Getting 7-8 people with dissimilar Wing Suits, fall rates and glide ratios is quite a challenge. From the diamond formations we were transitioning to vertical stacks of which a few people learned the hard way how to find the burble from the person below them. Towards the end we were achieving 9 way block stacks, that's three on the base level, 3 stacked above them and another 3 stacked above those. I loved every moment of each jump as it got better and better each time.

Towards the end some of the guys were starting to run angles and head down in their suits. Watch this space, Wing suiting is starting to take it to the next level and I am extremely happy to be a part of it. For all those skydivers who have had the idea of doing a First Flight Course and have just never got around to it, just do it and I am sure you will never look back

Nox Rocked!



“So, we were on the road again for another late night trip to Qld. We arrived just before midnight on Monday to find a few still about the fire, keen to tell us all about the flocking that had been underway all day. I could already tell we were getting a crew of flockers ready to step it up a little and the flavour of the day was 6 to 8-way flocks with a vertical stack being introduced as the day went on. I'd been flying the Camera slot at Good Vibes and Afterlife boogies, and to be part of the Camera pool again a Nox was awesome! Working alongside Hayden with 5D wing suiting has been a great learning experience and I have been able to really start to see the levels of flight and safety improving. It's awesome to see more and more jumpers getting the itch to try wing suiting and to see their faces after a day or two flying and being able to get involved with big flocks is just great. Overall Nox was a lot of fun, with the vertical stacks and the vertical flights Hayden, Max and I were playing with. I can't wait till the next time we all flock together!”

Throba





Music Festival

By Amanda Emblem, Legless singer & base player

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The On Fires

By Max & Marty

It was a fabulous weekend for us too and not just because we did our first ever jump! I was with mates from another international touring band last night, we were swapping travel tales... I told them how fantastic it was to return to Australia after 10 months away, walk into Ramblers and be hailed with a friendly g'day from a bloke I've never met before. The camaraderie, friendship and inclusiveness of the skydiving community really touched us and was a brilliant way to come home! We've never experienced anything quite like it. We came away feeling like family and it's been wonderful to have some email exchanges and Facebook banter with various people we met at the boogie.

We have a newsletter called "The Hose Down". There's a regular segment called "Somewhere in the World". This month it featured Toogoolawah and our jump! We set it to a live version of a song called "Let You Go". We thought it was appropriate.

Can hardly wait 'til we get back to Toogoolawah. The Equinox Boogie was one of those 'most-memorable' experiences for us; we're really hoping we can be part of next year's event. I loved it 'small' like that too - really made us a part of the action.

The On Fires would like to offer the skydiving community a free download of their latest album "Betrayer". Simply email: Max@TheOnFires.com
www.TheOnFires.com



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PD factory team





By Dean Sampson
Photos by Jonathan de Wet

blue room

Recovering from yet another snowboard injury, I hobbled my way into the newsagent on crutches, intent on finding a snowboard magazine to pass away the couch time. I had been following the snow seasons back to back for many years and had been through this process before. The injuries could sometimes be a downer but I never thought anything could compromise my passion for the mountain until that day in the newsagent when I saw the Australian Skydiver Magazine.

There is something about a skydiving photo that I get lost in – the stillness of it all. I imagine the ability to remain flying indefinitely, totally peaceful and calm. Growing up, I had always dreamt of flying and was lucky enough to get the chance on my 21st birthday but, due to circumstances at the time, I didn't stick at it. I didn't realise it would be over a decade before I would jump again, or realise that like snowboarding, it would dominate my thoughts.

That Da Vinci bloke was spot on when he said, *"For once you have tasted flight, you will walk with your eyes*

turned skywards, for there you have been and there you will long to return".

I started going into every newsagency I saw looking and waiting for the next issue to arrive and I still wasn't even jumping at that stage. After being lucky enough to be chosen winner of the magazine competition, I booked in for a full week 'A' license course at Nagambie starting on the Easter weekend. I asked one of my mates Dodesy, aka "Captain Cutaway", if he wanted to join me. We were at the pub when he said yes so I wasn't expecting his call the next day to say he was also booked in. It was good fun having a mate to share the experience with.

Arriving early Saturday morning I had time to grab a coffee at the drop zone (not to wake me up, but to calm the nerves and excitement I was feeling) and to take a quick look around before being called into the classroom.

Twelve people were on the course that day, and we were assured that we were in good hands with Craig Vaughn starting our education process. I don't think I've ever been in a classroom in all my life where everyone was so attentive and hanging on every word that was spoken. The only distraction was by the sound of Nagambie's awesome plane roaring up the runway just to remind us where we were and what we were up for. The only thing I thought might be more dangerous than the actual jump was watching people practice their PLRs. It's quite impressive to see some of the positions people get themselves into. After a full day training it was time to set up camp, digest what we had learnt and a few cold beers.

STAGE 7 AFF

DIVE EXIT



I woke up Easter Sunday with a change of habit. Living in the snow for so long, I used to wake up every morning and look at the ground to see how much snow had accumulated. Instead, on this morning the first thing I did was to look up to the sky. I was rapt to see that it was bluebird. After getting together as a group again to go through canopy checks, emergency procedures and freefall signals, it wasn't long until I was suiting up on the second load of the morning.

The extra height the PAC XL has to get you up to 14,000ft is awesome for the skydive but as I realised on the way up, it just gives your palms more time to sweat. Well, not everyone's, probably just mine, for as I looked to the end of the plane, it looked like the other jumpers were sleeping. As soon as the green light went on and the door went up, the fresh air hit me. I knew I didn't want to be anywhere else and that this was going to be amazing.

The jump went to plan until I had to pull and couldn't find my pilot chute. Luckily for me, my jumpmaster was on it and deployed for me. I loved the jump but was gutted that I hadn't deployed myself. After all, it's the most important element in skydiving.

I went out to the landing paddock to watch Dodsey do his first jump and check out his landing. After seeing his main come out I turned away only to hear he had chopped. The sight of his main and freebag floating away got my heart pumping and I couldn't begin to imagine what Captain Cutaway was feeling, especially on his first jump. I was very happy he made it down safe, but his face was priceless when he landed – as white as his reserve. Although I never want to have to use my reserve, it was comforting to see it work and to know that you should never doubt a decision to cutaway if it means you get to have another jump.

I did a second jump in the afternoon and was keen to make amends. Once geared up, I practiced locating my pilot chute on the ground so much that it felt like I would get RSI. Since continuing my jumping I still practice it constantly. My second jump was much more enjoyable. I located and pulled my pilot chute and actually had a good look at the scenery under canopy. After the plane shut down, we were introduced to the great tradition of the bell. Dodsey was definitely up for some ringing. 1st jump - 1st chop – 1st bell – cheers mate! Then it was off to the pub with everyone for a meal, a few more beers and recounting an awesome day.

We were lucky enough to get weather that allowed us to jump every day of the course – one of the best weeks of my life so far. Thanks to the great instructors and pilots, I was able to complete the ten stages of the AFF course and even get a couple of extra solos in. I am currently working through the B-rels and loving it more and more with every jump. I am also discovering how cold it is to jump in winter. My favourite aspect would have to be watching the instructors in freefall. I can't yet comprehend what I look like in freefall but to see someone else just flying around is so surreal. There are so many different elements to skydiving I never knew existed. I can't wait to learn more and see where this journey takes me.

Thanks ASM and the APF.



TRACK

**BACK
LOOPS**



A B C Camp

By Rod White Photos by Jai Champion & Kyle Binning



Rarely does something come along in life that changes you in a fundamental way, making an alteration deep inside your psyche, where the cornerstones of your personality meet and join to make you who you are. A change resulting in something new and improved, or perhaps reverting to something older, lost, a remembrance of who you were, who you were, really are, but which life has caused you to forget. Not transient but permanent, these changes instantly assert themselves, drawing a line under who you once were, allowing you to forget, or maybe find forgiveness, self-forgiveness; to be able to move on, move forward in life with a lighter soul, a smile on your face and in your heart, the clouds gone and the sun shining always on your face.

You might ask, what is this thing, is it real, solid or is it ethereal, does it take long, where can I get it? In truth, I know that I've been through it, have been changed by it however I cannot say just what single thing, or group of things, or single act, or combination of events caused this change.

Perhaps it was the place, Nagambie; early morning mist on the fields, the water in creeks and ponds still and reflective in the dawn light, the sheep, the horses, the lack of traffic and ambient industrial/urban noise. Yes, the location helped, so far from the troubles of life, so peaceful. Yet the place was not empty, it contained people - joyous, wonderful, caring, inviting, friendly, sharing people. Paulie, Jono, Wokka, Smedsy and Sandy, Jai, Tanya and Emmy. Also at this place was a feeling of happy contentment, of safety, of caring as if everything was ok, everyone was happy, in good hands. Enter Don and Lou, managing this place, this family of people, keeping it safe, full of fun and enjoyable, looking out for everyone, creating and maintaining this feeling.

Then there were the jumpers, people like me, novices at this sport, people wanting to learn, to improve. Jumpers with as little as 16 up to 90 jumps, AFF through B-Rel, 22 years old to 40 odd.

PHD Chris from Langhorne Creek DZ in South Australia, Deano the ASM AFF prizewinner, Cutaway Cameron and Jason

from Melbourne, High-wire Francis and Frenchman Toff, big magnificently muscled Darren and "Grass is now Greener" Shane, Alvin the purple haired Student, "from defender of our freedom to Teacher to be" Jim, and myself from Sydney some 774 kilometres distant. Testament to this place is that I left at the end of 5 glorious days, as did every person, knowing so much about each other, connecting, sharing life stories over a beer or three. Promises to meet again, something about a Full Moon?

But this was not all, there was another, vital component. Sure, these things above can make a memorable week, an enjoyable time, but this final component, combined with the others, made this week life changing. His name is Michael Vaughan and he is the giver, the enabler of good things, of change. I vaguely knew before I came to this place who he was though we had never met. I'd seen pictures of him in the ASM, his name in results tables, stories about him, by him. There was talk of him recently winning medals at international level. The first thing I'll say about Michael (those who know him already know this) is that he doesn't wear these medals like other elite sportsmen. He is giving, he is challenging, straight talking. He was the facilitator of good things. His rel-work knowledge is prodigious, never failing. Briefing, gear up, to the bus stop, exit practice, jump, video debrief, pack, then before you know it the next jump briefing and so on. Michael made us feel that our little four-way group was the only one, made it appear he had hours to think about what we were doing but this was not the case, he had several groups running concurrently, deciding on each jump one jump ahead, seamlessly. It is very matrix-like when he closes his eyes briefly, eyelids fluttering in the one or two seconds between when you ask "what are we doing" and he has the jump selected based on each participants' ability; sometimes challenging, other times consolidating, relaxing. He is part of the Australian Skydiving fabric and that fabric is part of him, kind of integrated. Oh and did I mention he is approachable, very approachable.



This course, this ABC (All the Basics Course) is more than that. It is the Absolute Best Course.



Add to this place and these good people some excitement, such as, for me, 20 jumps in 5 days, including 3-ways, 4-ways, 5-ways, tracking jumps, four (yes 4) Hop and Pops from 14K, canopy control exercises and follow the leader jumps. Open Accordians, sidestep diamonds, stars, pins, sputniks, words and positions new to me, yet now familiar, having never jumped more than a two-way before. And video, Jai's blessed video, expertly assessed and debriefed by Michael. Video so that my children can see what fun I had. Landing techniques and canopy packing tips and tricks (including Paulie's method to save time on a slippery new canopy), track off technique, exit techniques and exit positions. Michael Vaughan rotated us, recombined us, taught us, advanced us, he was the giver and he gave and gave and gave. He gave to me something special, he enabled in me confidence, a new optimistic future in this sport.

This course, this ABC (All the Basics Course) is more than that. It is the Absolute Best Course. And the cost, well at just \$20 per day to be able to participate in such a fabulous event is simply embarrassing for me. I feel like I have enjoyed myself too much, experienced more than I should, improved too much, took too much advantage of the situation. You know, I spent more on beer (ringing that wonderful bell) during the week. I want to go back, I will go back. I want to know these people, I want to be known by them, to enjoy time spent with them.

I know it is not correct for a novice like me to give advice in skydiving but I will give some. If you want to improve and you want to do this in the most conducive, fun and enjoyable

atmosphere, get down to Nagambie for their next ABC. If you want a socially fulfilling time, get down to Nagambie.

So Chris, you bitch, you left without saying goodbye, did my foray with Darren hurt you so much? And Deano, you have my number but haven't called me! Lighten up Cam, loosen your hold on Dean and let him call me, share brother, share.

"Life changing?" you question, hardly. "Nothing more than a great time!" We'll to put all this in perspective, after 5 days, upon arriving home after a long drive back to Sydney, tired and weary, it seemed like for only the second time in my 15 year old daughter's life, and for likely the first time in my 10 year old daughter's life, they each felt my embrace and heard me whisper "I love you and think you are beautiful". My wife, standing nearby, cried.





Big Name Gear Manufacturers Confirmed!

Airtec, the makers of Cypres AADs, have selected Skysisters as one of their featured boogies of 2010 to celebrate their 20th anniversary. They have all sorts of fun planned including body paint jumps and cocktail nights.

Performance Designs & Mirage Systems are coming over from the States with a bunch of demo canopies and equipment, and their main man, now slave, Nick Grillet.

Chris Talbot of **Sunpath Javelin** has surrendered himself to the Skysisters Slavery. He'll be kept in check no doubt by Sunpath's leading lady, Pat Thomas.

Jyro and Attila of the infamous **NZ Aerosports** are planning on sending a bunch of demo canopies over, hoping with a super-experienced totally spunky canopy coach too!

Our home-grown favourite, Jason Cooke of **Cookie Composites**, will be pumping up The Zone for us, with a selection of their latest helmets and accessories.

Supported by



Pre Skysisters Kate Cooper Big-Way Camp

Sat 16 to Tues 19th April, 2010 (the weekend before Skysisters) is Australia's first Kate Cooper Camp! Males and females welcome to attend. Skyvan & Caravan 34-way Formation Loads planned. This is rumoured to be a Selection Camp for the next World Record Attempts...

National Record Attempt

Dedicated to Fiona McEachern

Fiona was organising the 60-way record attempts, now this record will be in her honour and if successful will probably be a very long-standing record. Kate Cooper-Jensen is helping to organise the record attempts, the formation planned is a Fiona Fantym 59-way. All you experienced formation skydivas out there: we need your talent to help make this happen! Please register for it as we need to get organised!

Schedule:

- ~ Practice jumps and big-ways with Kate Fri 22 & Sat 23rd April, 2010.
- ~ Record attempts Sun 24th April, 2010 with Monday as a backup day.

National Record Attempts

Jules McConnel is organising the Canopy Formation record attempts. There are quite a lot of logistics involved, particularly with supplying gear, so please register your interest with Jules. Email: juliamcconnel@yahoo.com

Linn Mikkleborg is organising the world's biggest all female flock. Again there are logistics involved with providing suits and planning formations, so please register your interest with Linn. Email: littlelinny@gmail.com

Schedule of Record Attempts:

- ~ Wednesday 27th through to Friday 29th April, 2010.

Give Style & Accuracy a go!

Janine Hayes is committed to fostering the growth of women's Style & Accuracy in Australia. She's probably sick of being the only female Aussie competing at World Meets. There are slots at the next World Champs with your name on it. Janine has organised a tuffet, gear and judges at Skysisters for you to give it a go.

Virgin Skysister Challenge

Zero to Hero in 30 jumps & 2 weeks! Includes AFF Course, BRels, jumpsuit, helmet & so much more. There are 13 Virgin Skysisters booked in, hoping for 20! Spread the word. AFF Instructors & B-Rel Tutors & Slaves wanted!

Australian Skydiving Ladies – Let's Unite!

Fundraise or don't fundraise – it doesn't matter – what IS important is that you come! This event is 2 years in the making, a monolithic amount of work has been put into making this Skysisters Convention unbelievably awesome in every possible way, especially for you! Don't miss out, the next Skysisters is not for another 4 years, that's 2015!

Register Online

Help the super organisers be super organised – it's for your benefit too ie. we want to make sure your jumping needs are met, your jumping dreams turned into reality, we also want to know your preferred tshirt style and colour so you look your best, your favourite drinks to stock the bar with and what charity you'd like to donate \$1 a jump to.

You can choose to pay now or later, or layby the package over the next few months.

Male Slaves

15 slave applications have been given the green light. Go to the Forum to see who & what they are planning for us.

SKYSISTERS 3

2011 Countdown

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days

Friday 22nd April 2011 to Saturday 30th April 2011

Register here ▶



Style & Accuracy

World Meet Road Trip

By Janine Hayes



Getting There: Monday, 16th August 2010

Everyone wanting to go to a World Meet have high expectations and personal reasons for being there. Whatever the reason, motivation, or even skill level, the opportunity to wear your country's colours and stand proud beneath the Aussie flag is always a thrill regardless of the outcome.

And so, an eclectic bunch of Style and Accuracy skydivers (yes, we still do freefall David Boulter, Tibor Glesk, Janine Hayes, Andy Pike, Jodie Prime, Graeme Windsor and Don Woodland) gathered in Rome for what would be a journey of fun, exploration and learning. A trip laced with below the belly button humour that only seven Australian skydivers could produce on a road trip to Montenegro via Rome, encompassing ten days training in the north of Italy at the Flygang DZ in Molinella. The reason for our long trek was due to the cancellation of our original training DZ two weeks prior to our departure from Australia. This had been rectified with the assistance of Graeme and much hard work from Jodie and Tibor.

Rome in summer is hot, Italy in summer is hot. Having all arrived at the airport in the late afternoon and evening, it was all Bonjourno and Ciao as we bid Rome goodbye and headed for Molinella in the north some six hours drive away.

Tibor in charge of all things driving, with back up from Jodie (Team Manager), we headed out on the right side of the road while trucks and cars appeared as magnets towards our minivan.

Our first foray into comedy came at a truck stop about two hours into the trip. There was much laughter and tears as the guys tried on their new jumpsuits which had only arrived the day we left. Unfortunately, the translation of measurements was different to the actual outcome. So Tibor, Graeme, Don, David and Andy, squeeze as they might – everything in every direction – they were not going to be the well dressed team they had planned. The late night Italian travellers were highly amused at the spectacle and it set the scene for the rest of the trip.

After four more hours of tunnels and mountain passes, we found ourselves looking for the DZ at 3.30 in the morning. The local Cababinieri (police) were not bothered by a bus full of Aussies parked illegally. Fortunately, calls to Casimiro, the Italian Skydiver who does everything and has a suit for every occasion (we found that out later), greeted us and directed us to the DZ. Finally arriving, we were delirious from a lack of sleep as most of us had, by that time, clocked up 40 hours of travelling time.

First day & subsequent training

Following a couple of hours sleep, we awoke thinking we had been given a bum steer in relation to the accuracy pad. It first appeared to be too small and the pad not adequate. However it turned out to be due to our lack of sleep, paranoia, and the fact that the rest of it was packed away overnight.





The DZ called "Flygang" is set in an open field on the outskirts of Molinella with the next biggest town, Bologna, being some 20 kms south. It has two very large hangars with a PAC and a Porter, a swoop pond, a great bar with food service and tiny Italian coffees, a pool which proved to be our saviour in the hot conditions, and excellent staff and owners who were only too happy to accommodate our needs when they knew what we wanted. Georgia and Hilary at the bar were so helpful. Georgia would write up the menu in English just to make us feel welcome.

For the first day, it was five training jumps, two hours sleep, enough coffee to kill the average person, and then off to find our lodgings. One of the DZ owners, Stephano, organised for us to stay at Mamma Maude's – a local farm stay Bed & Breakfast which proved to be a great home away from home. The drive to the DZ every morning whether with Tibor (Tibor's Terrific Tours) or Jodie (She who chose to tangle with an orange bus), usually resulted in one of us, mainly Andy, exclaiming "Today we are going to Die" as we navigated our way along the busy country roads. Much of this journey was spent scouting local bike riders in the hope that we could hijack them and use their uniforms for the guys. This theme permeated several conversations and proved to trigger much laughter all round. We rectified the problem with a trip to Ferrara to purchase shorts and t-shirts. An experience we found amusing and tedious but eventually accomplished.

In an effort to improve our training, the last jump of the day was competitive with everyone picking coins to join a team. The highest scoring team had to buy the beer. Don finally jumped on the not buying beer team much to his relief.

We were soon into the groove of up early, out to the DZ, slot into the training with five to six jumps, back to our B&B, and out to a local Restorante for dinner. Graeme, happy to pick whatever was on the menu without too much fuss, was constantly surprised – one order being snails and another, in Bologna, being tinned squid still in the tin and served at Italian restaurant prices.

We all had ups and downs with the training. I was finding it difficult to concentrate at the top of the stack of six and stay out of Dons way. In the end I started bailing at 2,500 ft which seemed to surprise the locals but it worked for us. The guys, especially David at the bottom, had some difficulties with a swoop jumper visiting from overseas who had no real regard for what they were trying to do.

There seems to be an easy attitude to canopy flying in Italy and we were shocked to learn that they had had ten fatalities that year mostly related to canopy flying. With some of the examples we witnessed, we were not surprised and we were always on the lookout given the mixed loads and the Accuracy target being quite close to the swoop pond.

All of our training jumps were videoed by Jodie. Tibor debriefed as we all packed which proved to be great for us but probably a little hard on Tibor. We all had mixed results with the weather and winds playing a part. It was 28 degrees most days and the wind would get up in the afternoon. While we were following Joseph's dictum to not train in marginal conditions, in hindsight, Tibor felt that we could have done more in those conditions due to having similar conditions on most days during the World Meet. Nevertheless, we all learnt different things and were able to change aspects of our approaches to achieve better results.

It turned out, our many jumpsuited friend Casimiro, was not only the Italian Para Ski champion but an AFF, Freefly, CRW, Relworker come camera man. He seemed to be on every load and always in a different suit (was nicknamed Mr. Fashionista) and he certainly assisted the team any time we asked. Casimiro gained his Chief Instructor status while we were there and there was much celebrating. With the Italian Nationals commencing on the Monday we left, activity at the DZ was ramped up. Twenty-five teams turned up to train and compete so it was time for us to hit the road again. For any teams travelling to Europe to compete it is well worth looking at Molinella as a training camp option.

Molinella to Montenegro: 23rd August 2010

Driving through the Apennine Mountains which showcase amazing tunnels and cross huge gorges (a base jumper's paradise), we headed to Rome with a cultural stop overnight in Florence along the way. After a quick visit to the Colosseum and lunch on a boat in a nearby canal, we boarded yet another plane to Podgorica Montenegro.

Yet another bus ride, without Tibor or Jodie at the wheel this time, we arrived late in Niksic accompanied by our volunteer interpreter Mila. Mila walked an hour to the DZ every day to assist the team. Montenegro has a population of 660,000 people with 80,000 living in Niksic. Surrounded by mountains starting at 4,000 ft and working up to 7,000 ft, Niksic is 2,000 ft above sea level. The DZ sits in a bowl arrangement





with lower hills close. Unemployment in Montenegro is 40%. The people are very tall and friendly. The beer costs \$2.20 Australian for two litres and a good red wine costs \$4 Australian.

There was some argy-bargy at the Hotel reception about getting our rooms which we had ordered. Jodie produced the appropriate paperwork and having stood our ground and taken possession of our room keys, we settled into life in downtown Niksic at the Onogost Hotel.

Unfortunately for David, this was without his iPhone which was dropped late in the evening as we unpacked the bus. Dave suffered much angst and pain as he dealt with authorities' paperwork and the fact that he did not have his iPhone to use for a variety of things. Mila was most helpful in the trips to and fro the local police station.

Having discovered the Canadians had been waiting to practice without much luck, we elected to take the next day off. With 31 degrees at 10.30 am the following day, it was going to be a hot, dusty Meet.

Thursday, 26th August 2010

We were up early and out to the DZ determined to train. This proved to take some doing. Even though we were booked in to train, the aircraft had not arrived, so it was out to the local lake for swim. Eventually we were accommodated with four jumps from a Bell 212 with increasing afternoon winds. This proved to be the pattern. The Aussie woman whom I met on the flight over, had said Niksic was a very windy place. She was not wrong.

Everyone seems to walk the streets at night. With the temperature at 28 degrees at 10.00 pm and no air-conditioning, you do what the locals do and walk the downtown promenade of the main street. With a different bar every 30 metres there is plenty to observe.

Friday, 27th August 2010

Despite being up early again, we waited for the gazelle helicopters as they trained for the opening ceremony along with a Jet Fighter G4.

I managed one jump and the guys one practice in crappy conditions before heading back to the lake because of the wind.

The Canadians were just as frustrated as us. The Americans flew in via a King Air from Croatia. A Citation beat up the tents amazingly low and barrel rolled away.

I survived not being hit by a car – don't know how – so all in all, it was an eventful day.

Saturday, 28th August 2010

Up early and out to the DZ for one training jump. Got windy, went to the hotel across the road for lunch. The only 4 star hotel in Niksic, it proved to be a pleasant spot to sit out of the wind and heat.





Sunday, 29th August 2010

I managed a Style jump in Round 1 and fell off the loop, so no more rounds of Style for me! We had the opening ceremony, short speeches, aerobatics, helicopters, jets over the crowd, Graeme making a speech as IPC president, and a Demo in quite windy conditions. One young Montenegro girl, Anna Marie with a couple of hundred jumps, did extremely well (she has been driving for three years without a licence). Andy drew the short straw and proudly carried in the Aussie flag.

Monday, 30th August 2010

The guys got in one round early – not as good a start as they wanted. They ran the end of Round 3 in the dark and ended up with a number of re-jumps. It was great watching the standard of competition however, there were a lot of high scores as people were freaked by the conditions.

Tuesday, 31st August 2010

The competition started. With winds over limits, the Czech team had two out and the Italians were blown away. So, on to Men's Style. David, Andy and Tibor did Style, and Tibor made it through to Round 2.

Wednesday, 1st September 2010

Had my first Round. I was really nervous having not jumped for three days. Got called early as the winds were very high up top, had to hold, but nil winds on ground from around 200 feet, so did not pull off my best jump.

They finally waived off a couple of teams, had a faulty pad, then put the men up but then the wind went over until 6.30pm so the men started again.

Have started a competition with the Canadians and the Brits called the Montenegro Cup (combined score of all team members). Bought a tacky china cup, complete with Montenegro map, which the winner has to return in two years time.

Thursday 2nd September 2010

Spent the morning watching the men's team with mixed results for all of them.

Don got a disc yesterday which he was very pleased about. They have now done five Rounds. I managed two more jumps – not settled, not happy – however, once the score is on the board you cannot take it back. The wind blew up around 2.30 pm.

Friday, 3rd September 2010

Waited all day for the guys to finish Round 6, then back to the hotel because of wind. Nevertheless, they kept jumping Style in quite windy conditions.

Saturday, 4th September 2010

Up early again (early being 4.30 am with cooler weather) and out to the DZ. In between the rush to finish the competition, I was able to do my last three Rounds with the men's team one Round. They also finished the juniors and completed the Style.





Tibor finally cracked a disc after a re-jump due to the faulty pad, again... Though the way he walked off, you would have think he just got the worse score ever.

We had a late closing ceremony after two hours of waiting. A few teams were behaving badly due to the opportunity to drink, but not eat, while they collated the scores. We finally watched the medal presentations.

Results

The end results showed some stunning scores with the Russians 1st and 3rd in the women's event and with a Belarusian in 2nd place. The winning score for the women was 6cm over 7 Rounds.

The men's results were even more amazing with the Italians in 1st place with 2cm over 7 Rounds and in 2nd and 3rd place with 5cm and 6cm.

Winning teams for the women were Russia 29cm, Belarus 45cm, and China 56cm just pipping the Americans by 1 cm.

The men's team results were Italy 21cm, Solvenia 25cm, Russia 27cm with the Austrian's being pipped at 28cm. There is always a fine line between pleasure and pain.

Style went to the Russians 1st, 2nd, 3rd, with the top two jumping for a tie break. The 2nd Russian girl with a 6.66 set in the last round was not able to tip out her compatriot who had scored a 6.88 in the tie break to win.

The men were equally exciting with the Czech taking 1st place from the French by 14 one hundredth of a second. The French competitor had managed a sub six second round of 5.97 seconds in the 4th Round but it was not enough to take out the title.

We bussed back to the hotel at 10.00 pm where the hotel staff had prepared a beautiful meal and the room was all decorated for the party. It was a shame to be so late and given our early starts, we celebrated with a great band.

Departing

All good things come to an end and prior to departing, the Aussies teamed up with the Montenegro Cup winners – the Canadians – and headed out for some R&R: White water rafting on the Tara River through the 2nd largest canyon in the world. The 18kms of rafting was heaps of fun. Twenty-one Class 3 rapids on a river that was 3 metres higher than normal with three Canadians and six Australians – the day was a blast from start to finish. The turquoise colour of the river was stunning. To finish, a traditional lunch of goat cheeses, prosciutto, bread baked in an outside oven, potatoes, lamb, and a fantastic red to wash it all down.

As I finish, I think what I achieved was probably not all that I had planned as far as the competition. Yet, in some ways, it was so much more than I could have ever hoped.

While we trained well in Italy, it was a shame we did not get to train how we wanted to on site. Not finishing the rounds was disappointing but then, that's the nature of the sport. I have renewed, as have the others on the team, old friendships, created new ones and have certainly experienced a number of countries from a different perspective.

Travelling on a team is truly a privilege – not without its moments with such strong personalities (including my own) – however I would not have had it any other way.

Hvala (Thank you) Tibor, Jodie, David, Graeme, Don and Andy.

Ciao J9



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*Last minute gear checks and minds rehearsing, as we line up on jump run,
Jovial words and comforting nods as we launch in to the sun,
Living and laughing and experiencing the thrill of free-fall on our face,
All sorts of people from all walks of life, sharing a like-minded space,
We see the world in a different light from our playground way up high,
Marvelling at the visuals we spy as we play chasey through the sky*

*This amazing sport allows us to soar like we never thought we could,
Personal growth and a unique sense of self, shapes us for the good,
But if we were asked to ponder it all, and name the very best part,
We'd say it was the fabulous friends we now hold so close to our heart,
All those really special people we have met along the way,
Jumping buddies with kindred minds with whom we love to play,
The Coach's and Mentors who shared the knowledge and helped develop our skills,
Who inspired us and guided us and taught us all the drills*

*And a special lady springs to mind that epitomises the very soul of this sport,
A talented skydiver with exceptional skills, whose contributions were highly sought,
Fiona Elizabeth McEachern, an integral part of this organisation for over 26 years,
Her calming presence on any load allaying the wildest of fears,
She organised our jumps and held our hands and taught us how to fly,
She encouraged us and believed in us and she'd always let us try,
She gave her all to her chosen sport and was our ambassador all over the world,
Admired and respected by everyone she met, she was an inspiration to us all,*

*Director of Competitions for more than a decade, at volunteering she was never shy,
Playing a big part in the growth of the sport, Fi kept the standards high,
A mentor of many from every level, her advice was always heeded
An exceptional friend to so many people, always there for you when needed,
To Doctor John this lovely lady was infinitely more than a wife,
He once said to me, his Fiona was, the 'pontoons of his life',
Our Fi loved a party when she brought out Narelle, going hard 'til morning,
As a Vet Surgeon she really excelled, animals her life's true calling,
At heart our Fiona was simply all soft, her dogs and her rats were her babies,
A truly nice person in every sense, a unique character was this lady,*

*And whilst our dear friend has left us early, her indomitable spirit will stay with us always,
She lives at the heart of the skydiving world & will be setting the pace on our 4ways,
She'll be there with us on every climb out, giving us that subtle key,
And as we take up grips we'll glance across, and see a forever smiling Fi,
And as we launch the base and settle into the dive, her words will echo in our mind,
Relax boys and girls, take a deep breath and your fall rate you will find,
Approach your slot at a steady pace and make sure you dock like a feather,
Keep an eye on your height, look after your mates, and don't jump in shitty weather,
I'll be watching from the brightest rainbow, you'll see my shadow on the clouds all fluffy white,
And tonight when you toast by that raging bonfire, I'll be the shooting stars in the night,*

*And if Fiona could talk to us now I feel sure that she would say, my friends no more crying,
Charge that glass and drink to me, and keep those Fi jokes flying,
Keep it alive, keep sharing the love, keep turning points for me, together
I live in you all and I always will and through you I soar free forever.*

By Susan Bostock, 2010



*Fiona
McEachern*



7,464 jumps over 26 years
Formation Skydiving Chair of IPC
APF Director Competition
Administrator NSW Parachute Council
Silver Medal World Champs 1998
APF Achievement Award 1999
Australian Sports Medal 2000
47-way Women's National Record 2006
151-way Women's World Record 2006
APF Future 50s Award 2010
112-way National Record 2010

a
Bachern



yoga and skydiving

By Jill Grantham

THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF YOGA ON SKYDIVING ARE WELL KNOWN BUT IS OFTEN REJECTED FOR ITS PUBLIC IMAGE OF BEING SOFT OR FOR HIPPIES – NOT HARD CORE PEOPLE LIKE SKYDIVERS. ONCE YOU HAVE GOTTEN OVER YOURSELF AND TRIED IT, YOU WILL REAP THE BENEFITS QUITE QUICKLY. ASANA PRACTICE (YOGA POSTURES) IS NOW INCORPORATED INTO THE CURRICULUM OF MANY OF THE SKYDIVING TRAINING CENTRES WHO EMPLOY BOTH YOGA AND SKYDIVING INSTRUCTORS. SKYDIVING’S ELITE SING THE PRAISES OF THE BENEFITS OF YOGA ON SKYDIVING,

Amy Chmelecki (Arizona Arsenal) - *“I cannot say enough good things about yoga and how it relates to skydiving. Yoga helps with flexibility, strength building and stress management. These three things are so important when it comes to reaching your skydiving goals. A little yoga every morning can help prevent those small annoying injuries!”*

At Nagambie we have started a morning yoga session before jumping begins and this helps us warm up our bodies and focus our minds. Better than a cup of coffee, we normally do both so we are raring to get jumping. Some people have also joined the class in preparation for the tunnel invasion happening over spring. Most of the class participants had never done yoga before but they are practising by themselves during the week as well.

Allison Irvin, Cameraflyer and yoga regular says: *“Jill’s yoga is amazing! After every session I feel so relaxed yet energised at the same time. I have improved my core strength and flexibility dramatically. It has made a big impact on my skydiving by also improving my balance, concentration and mental strength. I look forward to yoga practice every week. Thanks Jill!”*

The ways yoga can assist are innumerable, this article will highlight four, but deeper research and practice is recommended.

Flexibility and Balance

Flexibility and balance are crucial to all types of skydives as they help with performance in freefall . Good balance helps to achieve proficiency in some of the harder flying positions, like in free flying. Good flexibility helps with in air manoeuvrability, getting into those awkward positions on exit, or trying out a new position in the caravan...

The practice of inversion asanas that improve balance like shoulder-stand/sarvangasan or head-stand/ shirshasan are an easier and cheaper way of mastering the point of balance for flyers, as opposed to doing numerous jumps or spending hours in the tunnel. Also postures like the kite/patangasan or Dancers pose are a great way to improve and hone balance skills. It all helps improve awareness of our limbs and the inputs required to balance. The head down beer drinking club has managed to incorporate skill development in balance and alcohol consumption, that’s smart thinking.

Awareness and Recovery

I have noticed a common mistake of newer skydivers is to fly only using their torso or arms, as that is all they can easily see in their direct and peripheral vision. An increased body awareness, would improve their rate of progression dramatically, as we all know sometimes it isn’t until we are told or see footage of ourselves that we become aware of what we are doing. Pranayama (breathing) also helps early jump students to overcome sensory overload and panicking in the plane.

General body awareness can benefit experienced skydivers as well. The subtle difference in drag created by a flexed foot and a pointed toe is generally missed. The awareness could also help injured jumpers identify and recognise that they are injured and to avoid further exacerbation of injury as we don’t listen to what our body is telling us if we don’t like the message. Current culture would suggest the best treatment plan is to ignore pain and go on jumping, as Dr Jose Cuervo will fix the problem with the elixir from the blue agave plant once the bar opens. “There’s no broken foot if you can’t feel your foot” philosophy provides hours of entertainment and footage, but I’m sure we all have or know of people who still suffer from niggling injuries as a result of getting injured and not allowing the injury time to heal. This may seem like a crazy concept, but if a person were to listen to their body, rather than ignore it, it would more than likely decrease the time people are out of the sport when injured.





Training

Regular asana practice can help the body get accustomed to being comfortable and relaxed in a position, as this philosophy is the same in both skydiving and asanas. However it is frequently forgotten in the moment and skydivers try to use strength to fly, which fatigues them more quickly and makes the body position less stable. Having a relaxed body position would enable people who are training to make more jumps in a day and would decrease the injury and soreness they suffer from that training. So over a week long training camp, there is a noticeable difference in the comfort and movement of yoga practitioners and non practitioners.

Yoga postures such as the half spinal twist /ardha Mastyendrasana, are particularly helpful after a long day skydiving to help belly flyers relieve some of the pressure they have been putting on their back, while arching all day. Instructors, Bow pose/Dhanurasana can be used to help students who are having trouble with their body position get the feel for centre point of an arch.

Breathing

Breathing, although it seems basic, in my opinion is the most important in skydiving. Pranayama techniques can be used to keep a jumper calm and focused before exit. During the jump, if they are breathing normally they will be more relaxed and, after the jump, they will be able to remember what occurred on the jump, which is helpful in debriefing. If you jump at a DZ which gets put on hold for traffic, THIS IS FOR YOU. When it comes to the effects of hypoxia, Pranayama and yoga practice also have other advantages to jumpers as the practice induces long-term changes in respiratory function and control. There have been studies conducted examining the effects of altitude sickness/hypoxia on yoga practitioners, monks and sherpa's who live in elevated areas. They have been able to conclude that the effects of hypoxia are less on yoga practitioners as they appear to still be able to satisfactory transport oxygen at high altitudes.

Conflicts

Skydiving and Yoga do share similar body awareness and balance requirements however the principles and mindset behind each lifestyle are at two different ends of the spectrum. In yoga ashrams, the bell is rung to signal the beginning of meditation

or asana practice, at a drop zone a ringing bell means BEER!!

Still unsure? Here is a scenario highlighting the benefits of yoga and skydiving on the 2007 World Record.

Melissa Nelson world record holder - Yoga really helps with breathing as a skydiver at any level. As a Yoga instructor myself, I teach focusing movements with the breath and exercising my lungs. This awareness of breath and strengthening of breath translates well in the air for any skydiver, from beginner to participating on a world record to help relax.

On the 2007 69-Way Vertical World Record I wore my heart rate monitor. Climbing into the plane it was 98 beats per minute (bpm). I sat down, closed my eyes and focused on deep ujjayi breaths and my heart rate went to 84bpm. On the climb up, breathing regularly (and remember there is thinner oxygen so this could have played in the results somehow) it stayed about 90bpm.

On the 2 minute call my heart rate went up to 111bpm. Tying up the Oxygen a minute later and the door opening, I last checked my heart rate monitor and it read 128bpm.

After exit, freefall, break off and deployment, I immediately checked my heart rate monitor and it read 165bpm!!

After this little experiment I used my breath and focused on relaxing and controlling my breath. On later jumps the average heart rate was lower!!"

There are plenty of experienced yoga practitioners around the drop zone whose experience you can draw from. Remember, they might not be the most experienced skydiver on the drop zone. Get them to show you a thing or two or even start up your own morning practice. There is no need to do anything too fancy – just a couple of sun salutations and a few poses specific for the type of jumping you are doing and you will feel the benefits in no time.

Blue skies and Hari Om



Head Stand



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statechamps

2-Way Novice - NSW State Championships

By Candice Workman Photos by Shane Pieschel

This life I have been living for the past month and a half is all new to me, with just stepping into the great world of skydiving a mere six weeks ago. With only thirty-seven jumps under my belt, I got asked to do the 2-way Novice competition with Jonny McWilliams. Knowing that he had somewhere around fifteen thousand jumps was a little intimidating at first, but I knew it would be a learning experience in the least.

It was a beautiful midday Sunday with perfect skydiving weather, and as it came time to work out the points for round 1, I was actually really excited, with the nerves long gone. Jonny Mac, as he is known by most, and I, had the team name of "JC", with as obvious as it sounds why from our initials, we also wanted the other teams saying, "Jesus Christ," in nerves, when they saw what we had to bring to the table!

Round 1 was probably my favourite, filled with 720 degree turns and making 12 points, I felt on top of the world (almost literally) and was pumped for the next four rounds to come. Knowing that the other teams weren't too far behind us, I stayed focused and excited knocking out rounds 2, 3, 4, and 5 within a couple of hours, striving to make the most points possible. I have learned to stay excited when under stress to do a certain movement or point, because it makes for a more relaxed and great jump.

Johnny Mac and I beat the other three teams every round except one, giving us more space to stay ahead, even if something went wrong in our jumps. With that being said, we never let it get to our heads, and jumped each round with the mind set of being in last place, doing as best as we could. Being as inexperienced as I was (and still am), I was getting so much practice in turns, side slides and docking miscellaneous points, learning so much from one of the best skydivers that I had the privilege to call my teammate.

In the end, we won first place and I received my first gold medal (yes I know, that's beer on the bar!). I was actually happy to put a case on the bar, because I got to walk around all night with the gold hanging from my neck, and you best believe I slept with

it on for the first night too! All in all, I would like to thank almost every instructor and experienced diver at Sydney Skydivers, tutoring me and giving me great tips since my AFF Stage 1, and I especially would like to thank Mr. McWilliams for the great opportunity he gave me, all the great advice and some really fantastic jumps.





South Qld Champs

Words & photos by Justin de Waard,
State Coach SQPC

The 2010 South Queensland Parachute Council Regional Championships in Formation Skydiving and Vertical Formation Skydiving was run by the Toogoolawah Skydivers Club Inc. at Toogoolawah DZ on the 18th and 19th September. The events held on the Saturday were 4-way FS Open, 4-way FS Inter and 2-way VFS. Unfortunately due to bad weather on the Sunday, the 8-way FS and 2-way FS was postponed until the weather date on October 2nd and 3rd. This weekend was again rained out and so we tried again the following weekend, again without any luck due to rain! The 2-way FS is now going to be held in January as part of the 2Galahs Challenge. The date for the 8-way FS is still to be confirmed but is likely to be in February 2011 when it is hopefully not raining!

FREEFLY VFS 2 WAY

1st - MADE IN MEKAH

Justin De Waard
Marios Christodoulou
Ben Dalglish (Vid)

2nd - MARIOS MUNCHERS

Susie McLachlan
Archie Jamieson
Wayne McLachlan (Vid)

3rd - RHONDA'S CHALLENGE

Dave McEvoy
Michel Cona
Rhonda Bostock (Vid)

INTER 4 WAY

1st - FRIKADELLEN

Steven Geens
Philip Kemper
Dale Finley
Aaron Radford
Lisa Perdichizzi (Vid)

2nd - SEKKC

Simone Bull
Peter Etherton
Kathryn Mettler
Chas Gutman
Kim Fairclough (Vid)

3rd - THE HUNG ONES

Reilly Cartlidge
Nathan Leis



2010 NSW State Swoop Competition

By Simon Hayter

On the morning of the competition, Sydney Skydivers, Picton, was blanketed in low grey cloud. It seemed as if the usually fine-weathered Picton had pulled a bender the night before and was curling up under a cloud blanket with a God-awful hangover and no intention of rising to host the 2010 NSW State Canopy Piloting Competition.

But the motley group of swoopers gather on the lawn, cursing the weather Gods, would not be deterred from jumping. Crash (Craig Bennett) summonsed the competitors and briefed the group on the running of the competition. After a quick discussion on exit orders, we headed to the emplaning area and the competition got underway.

For an awful looking day, the conditions at Picton were good for swooping. The air was still, the swoop pond was full and the cloud was just high enough to set up for a run at the course.

The competition was judged over nine jumps per competitor; three jumps in each of the disciplines of speed, distance and accuracy. There were two competition levels: open and intermediate.

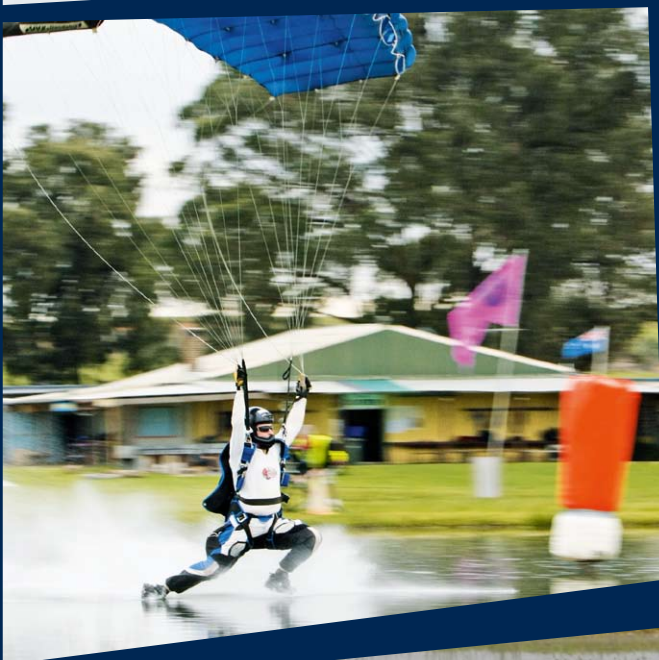
The Open League was fantastic to watch. It was amazing to see these guys running 720 and 450 degree turns from over 1,000ft high, diving their canopies toward the ground, lines screaming as they swoop the pond and run the course with precision accuracy – well, most of the time... but, more on that later.

In the Open League, Dave Noble had an awesome day on the pond, putting in some impressive rounds running 450s for all nine rounds after moving up from 270s only 20 jumps before the competition! Dave won a silver medal in the distance event and in the speed event carved around the course only to hit the exit gate so low he slid feet first under the sensor! After a re-jump, he hit the sensors and scored.

Nik Jackson and Darren Griggs, both flying tiny JVX canopies hard all day, had good rounds in speed and accuracy. Glenn Farrell had a great competition, surprising himself by scoring a bronze for his showing in the distance event.

Keven Walters flew his Velocity 90 in a stand-out performance that won him silver in the speed event, bronze in the accuracy event and a third place overall. Tom Gilmartin scored highly, winning silver in the accuracy event and just missing out on silver in the distance event. Tom took home a silver medal in the overall placing.

But Michael Vaughan was on the money, every time, running 720s close to the gates with a consistency and drive that won him gold in every event.



Oli Oldham deserves special mention for his efforts on the pond; going big and going hard, not always with dry results. If Open League is where the talent is, Intermediate League is where the entertainment is.

With almost all of us running 90s, it was inevitable that we were going to get wet.

Tyler Baird and Smiley (Lucas Yeo) were serial swimmers, going into the pond so many times that Terry Wingate built a fire to dry them out!

Tyler put in some solid flights in the accuracy events, taking out third place and winning a bronze medal overall. He was also awarded the medal for the safest pilot – you’ve come a long way, Tyler! Smiley had good runs in both distance and accuracy events.

Kobi ‘Borat’ Zohan (Yaakov Bokay) took out the Best Stack of the Day Award when he carved a little too close to the side of the course and wrapped his canopy around a pillion, collapsing his wing and smacking him into the pond in a spectacular stack that thrilled the crowd.

John Martin had a good day out with some nice toe drags over the pond, and won a silver in the accuracy round.

But the intermediate gold medallist overall was Steve ‘Sleazy’ Cowan who had a great competition, showing increasing consistency that culminated in the accuracy round where he ran an intermediate-level top-scoring swoop of 84.

And me, well, I scored a silver medal overall, but my big win was discovering the buzz of competing.

Michael Vaughan, Tom Gilmartin and Putz (Cameron Jarrett) deserve special mention for their commitment to nurturing canopy piloting in NSW and further afield.

Also thanks to the APF Sport Development Fund and the NSW State Council for helping to fund the event. In particular, the support of the NSW State Council has been crucial to the event.

Thanks also to Johnny Mac and Phil Onis for organising and hosting the competition at Sydney Skydivers.

Many thanks to Crash and Peter de Jeney who set up and judged the event with help from Liz Siedlecka and Kate Langley. And to Chris Grimes who worked the pond. Thanks also to Grant Barnes for capturing some great photographs of the competition.

“Hit the gate, buddy, that’s all you have to do.” That was the advice given to me before entering the competition. It sounded simple enough.

“Just hit the gate”, I muttered to myself as I approached the set up point in deep brakes, momentarily horrified that I’d overshot the mark. No, wait, it looked good... 650ft... looking good, 600ft... deep breath in... 580ft, here we go. I pulled the front risers down, gathered some speed and turned the canopy toward the gates, which stood sentinel in the middle of the swoop pond and seemed a lot smaller than when I’d last seen them.

The canopy gathered speed and I aimed it as best I could at the gates, hoping that it would plane out above the pond and on the course. The canopy began to recover and I was stoked to find myself heading right through the gates and with enough speed to make it out of the pond. As I ran through the course, I had images of the photographers’ flashes going off capturing the moment that I performed the most awesome swoop ever in the history of awesomeness.

I made it out of the pond and landed unceremoniously in a spray of wet sand. I immediately launched into an elaborate happy dance. I was the King of the World, I had swooped like a genius and there could be no doubt that I was awesome.

“Ah... you might want to tone it down a little”, one of the officials stage whispered from the side of the pond “, you were a mile high over the gate and no chance of scoring any points”.

“What now?” I said, still happy dancing, but with my jazz hands now lacking lustre and commitment.

“But... but... I was awesome,” I uttered in a dismal voice as the official moved on to more important things.

Hitting the gates was going to be a little harder than it seemed.

I dragged my sorry ass off the course and watched my competitors make their runs at the pond. I thought back over my run and couldn’t wait to get back up there and try again.

And that’s what it’s all about. The rush of competing, of seeing what you can do if pushed.

State level competitions are the entry way into serious canopy piloting, but you don’t need a lot of experience or skill to enter State level competitions. And there is a lot of help on hand to assist you in your first competition.

If you’re interested in canopy piloting, talk to your DZSO about introductory canopy courses or ask an experienced canopy pilot how to get started.



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CANOPY COURSES

GOING DOWN IN STYLE - PARACHUTING 101

Article & Photos by Erin Matthews

The reassuring tug on the upper body. Look up. Malfunction? No. Any chance of collision? No. Slider, toggles, and look down to the DZ. Now, to pull on the right toggles at the right times and get myself and my open canopy down to somewhere within the realm of that little square of grass with the flags in each corner, sans broken legs.

Prior to last month, that was my entire knowledge of canopy control: Right turns, left turns, a nice high circuit and flare before touchdown. I was a little apprehensive when my boyfriend suggested we enrol in Michael Vaughan's canopy course – "but my landings are rubbish!", "but I'll have the least jumps of everyone!", "but he films people, what if I fall on my face on camera?!" – the excuses came thick and fast but the weekend approached relentlessly.

Saturday morning arrived at the DZ and so did we. The early morning Hume traffic was kind to us but Mother Nature was not. The Allen's lollies billboard on the way gleefully informed us that it was in fact 3°C. Arriving at Nagambie and stepping out of the car confirmed this.

With myself and seven others gathered for Michael's introduction, thermals and neck-warmers intact, we planned the first few jumps of the day. Jump buddies prepped, and then a question out of the blue: "Who's never jumped from a Cessna?" I haven't. The hand tentatively rises, along with thoughts of the extra carton I will be obliged to provide tonight.

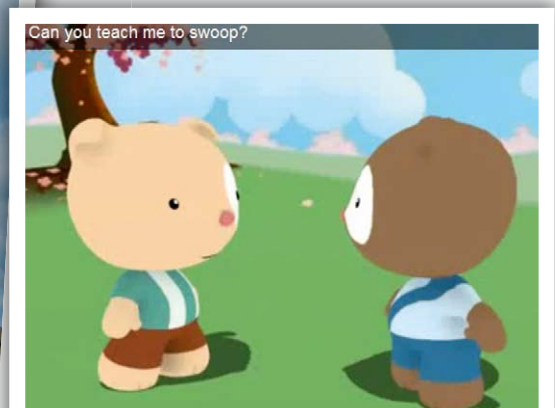
Load one is ready and Don Cross is at the controls of the 182 with the propeller roaring into life. They're up to 8 grand and five canopies suddenly appear. Back on the ground we hear encouraging phrases like "It's FREEZING!", "I can't feel either of my arms!", "I've got ice crystals on my jumpsuit!" ...and it's my turn.

Load two and I'm ready. Gear check: thermals, track pants, jumpsuit, socks x 4, neck-warmer, gloves, helmet - ok. VH-EFY, affectionately known as 'EFY', arrives at height but by this time the DZ is obscured by thick and menacing cloud. We drop below the cloud and Don gives the verdict – it's going to be a hop 'n' pop from 3,500ft. In my entire 31-jump skydiving career, AFF 9 and 10 are as clear as day. The door is open (at least at this altitude the temperature is bearable!) and I'm out without clocking any body parts on the wheel (thanks guys for the horror stories), canopy is open and for the first time ever I experiment with my risers. The wind by this time is a fairly considerable south-westerly. My canopy takes me for a brisk run before a fleeting wrestle to bring it down.

Back inside we receive the news: we're on hold indefinitely due to the weather. Welcome to spring, Victoria. Righto, theory today and we'll focus on the jumping on Sunday. Michael is a wealth of information and I was keen to soak up as much of it as possible. In his own words, he can "talk about this for hours". To answer our eager questions he had to. Nestled inside, I listened and absorbed as never before during four years of university lectures. As one of the least experienced jumpers of the group, I began to realise how many complexities were involved with canopy control, and how many new techniques I could try during subsequent jumps. The answer to every "how many seconds can I hold/pull/try that for?" was always "until you get scared!"

"The wind's dropped, we can go for a jump!" Outside was looking slightly better, but this was short-lived. By the time the debate of who would be on the load had reached a consensus, the wind had picked up again. Much to the relief of the rest of the DZ, jumping was over and the first bell of the evening rang through the air.

An early Sunday started when Michael asked what each of us were aiming to gain from the course. I was simply trying to improve my accuracy and skill, and keep my skeletal system intact. However, some of the participants were "Coo-ol Sky-divers" and had aspirations of high-performance landings:



CANOPY COURSES



“ COMING DOWN UNDER CANOPY, MICHAEL SHOWED US WHY HE’S THE TUTOR AS HE HOVERED ABOVE US AND GRASPED A PILOT CHUTE OR TWO BETWEEN HIS FEET.”

After the ground-bound Saturday we were keen to get in the air so a couple of filmed landings sounded great. Load one was up, hopped, popped and down just as the previously distant clouds made their appearance – curse the weather forecasters! Back upstairs to pick Michael’s brain.

First on the menu was gear maintenance, where I learnt that the cables from cutaway handles are NOT, in fact, supposed to be black. The air was thick with silicone spray and faces were pictures of concentration and frustration as unwilling cables were fed back through loops, grommets and into housings.

Back into the theory, we covered everything from downsizing to high performance landings. Suddenly, a call informed us that the XL was about to go up and could take us to 5 grand. Still fastening leg straps we rushed to the bus stop. Five thousand was a myth in these conditions so at 3,500ft six of us piled out and within seconds were under canopy. Michael was frantically filming landings as we arrived on the ground

almost simultaneously. I was cursing the camera as I came in short, scaring the wits out of a small flock of sheep grazing near the landing area. Despite a well-timed flare and smooth touchdown, the Kiwi-themed quips came thick and fast.

As the day neared completion, Michael finished off the theory with a very helpful segment on landing circuits, a particularly applicable subject for my current battle to gain ‘B’ Licence accuracies. The weather was improving and Don was keen to get in the air: “I’m going to take EFY for a spin, in case any skydivers happen to fall out”. It did happen, one last load that managed to get up to just over 4,000ft. Coming down under canopy, Michael showed us why he’s the tutor as he hovered above us and grasped a pilot chute or two between his feet. Following a circuit based on our earlier session, I touched down in the centre of the landing area as I heard a ‘swoosh’ above me and Michael landed in front of me. It was the first time I have ever been completely confident throughout a landing; a great feeling.

The canopy course is over: Mary McKillop is a Saint, the Aussie dollar is on par with the greenback, and I know much more about parachuting than I did a fortnight ago. I would like to thank Michael Vaughan immensely for imparting his knowledge during the course weekend. Despite the weather reducing the jump numbers, I feel that we gained enough theory to improve our skill hugely. Many thanks also to the APF Sports Development Fund for their kind contribution to Michael’s interstate travel, ensuring that the cost of the course was extremely reasonable. My ankles and the DZ sheep will be eternally grateful!



RP CANOPY SCHOOL - TULLY 20/21 OCTOBER

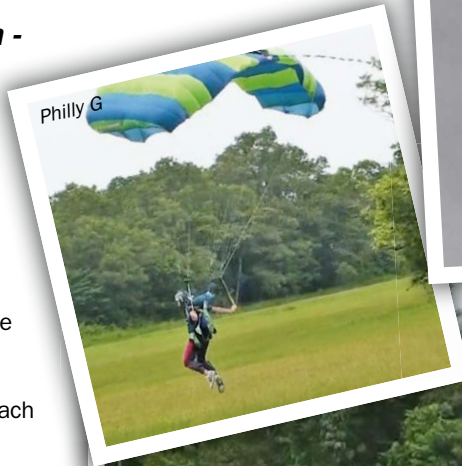
By Ronnie Perry - skydiveperry@hotmail.com -
FBOOK : RPcanopyschool

After another successful Canopy School at Go Troppo, a few of the local work jumpers and alike expressed their enthusiasm for another school to be held which they could attend. It was the usual pre-book system with deposits paid to secure slots. I tried a new format on this school: an all inclusive package which included all jumps, coaching, breakfast, lunch and knock off beers. This meant the boys could concentrate on their jumping and not ducking off to the servo for food and drinks. The weather wasn't as flash as it could be but the learning was still on! Thanks to the APF for the Level 1 Funding for fuel to help get me up from Airlie Beach and also to Matt the pilot for a sterling flying effort.

Here's some of the boy's feedback:

"This was my 4th canopy school with Ronnie to date and I am still learning on every one. We all went through our goals we wanted to achieve and all had in depth discussions about them. Everyone from all skill levels learnt something today from set ups and turn mechanics, to off DZ landings. Even when raining, it's nice to know that there are still lots of information to take in without even stepping into an aircraft. Thanks to Ronnie for giving up his time for us, especially on his birthday! Also thanks to the APF for helping out with the funding to get more coaches into the far north to help this sport progress even further." **Andy 'Angry Beiber' Woolf**

"I swooped (haha) at the opportunity! A 7.30am start with breakfast and a briefing to work out exit orders taking into consideration everyone's wing loadings and experience, and we were off. Everyone landed safely on the DZ and it was back inside for the video debrief. With Ronnie pointing out the good and not so good points of our landings, we were all given little tasks do to under canopy, and for landing, and then we were off again. We managed to get in half of our loads for the day before the weather decided to spoil our party. Still much was learnt by everyone involved in the limited jumps. Whilst waiting for the weather to clear, we used the time to sit and go through what we had learnt regarding flying good circuits, harness positions, good flaring techniques and much more." **Chur chur, Rory 'the downsizer' Southerland.**



"I drove for six hours from Airlie Beach to be a part of it. It's good that the APF is helping support these coaching courses, as we sometimes miss out on such events up here in Nth Queensland. We had a wide range of experience levels and backgrounds on the day, which was good because it meant a wide range of topics were discussed. I myself have been quite uncurrent on my sports canopy for some time since getting stuck into tandems. I found it great to be able to set aside a day to really focus on all aspects of my canopy flying, and get current again. Canopy school doesn't necessarily mean learning to swoop or land on the target each time. It is your chance to focus on whatever aspects of your canopy flight you wish to improve. I believe canopy school would be beneficial to any skydiver, regardless of jump numbers or experience. We all spend time briefing ourselves on our freefall before we jump, but how many people actively brief and plan their canopy flight for each and every jump? If you haven't been on a canopy school yet – do yourself a favour and book in today. You will definitely learn something, no matter how experienced you think you are..." **Phillys 'the schoolboy' Gordon.**



TALON FS

for all forms of flight

www.parachutesaustralia.com

The Talon FS has been developed in response to the exacting demands of today's skydiving, from Formation Skydiving, Freely and VFS to Wingsuiting and CRW. No matter what your passion, this container responds to it all.



NEW spacer foam on the backpad and inside leg pads for added comfort. In-set horizontal backstrap, hip ring and comfort pad results in unparalleled stabilization with maximum comfort.



Main riser covers - designed for maximum holding power. The backpad is shaped and contoured to fit the shoulders and upper body and stay in place.



The V-Flex upper leg strap and "Multi-Flex" harness configurations with chest and hip rings allows for maximum comfort and flexibility. Reserve ripcord - standard or low profile.



Upward main closing flap and integrated side flap with bridle cover for maximum closing pin and bridle protection.

AUSTRALIAN PARACHUTE FEDERATION Annual Conference 2011

Date:

23 - 25th May, 2011

Venue: The Pullman Reef
Hotel Casino, Cairns

Accommodation:

Special conference rate:
Pullman Hotel from
\$165 per night

Awards Night: 24th May.
Kicking off the evening in
the Wildlife Dome on the
roof of the Hotel.

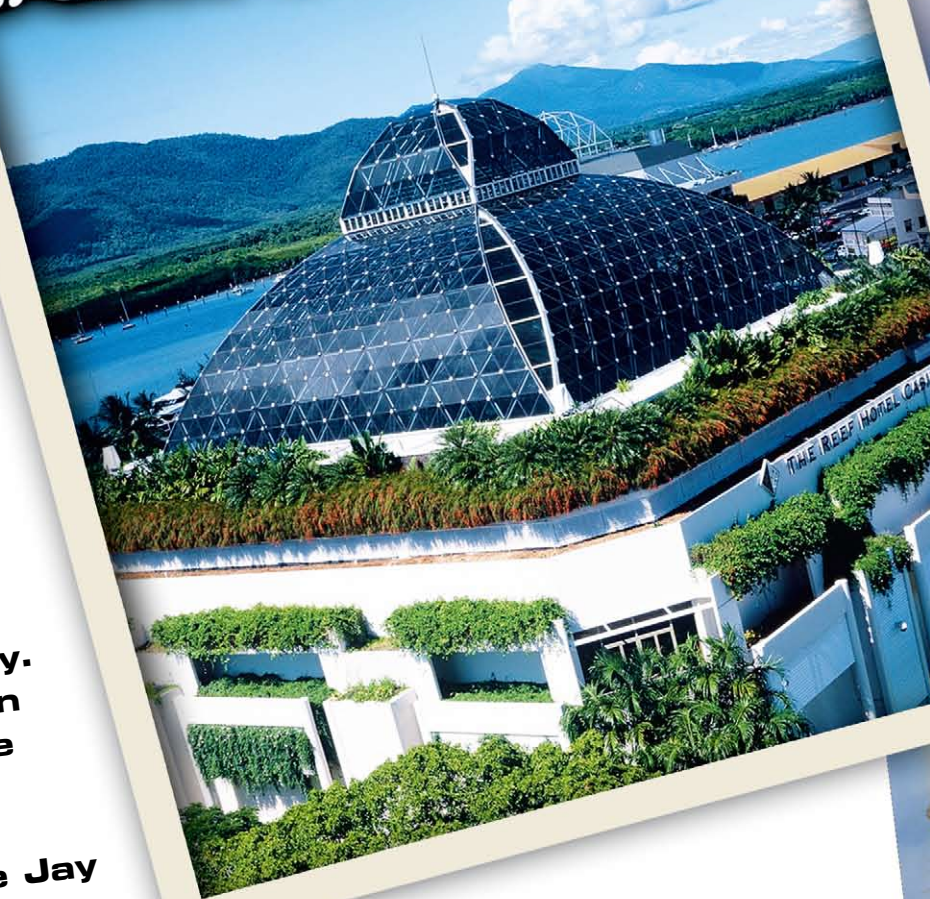
Guest Speakers include Jay
Stokes, World Record for
most skydives (600)
in 24 hours, also USPA President!

Great exhibitors area - products and services produced
by Skydivers, for Skydivers!

Structured Training Workshops to be
conducted, topics TBA!

Visit www.apf.asn.au
for bookings, info, updates and
alternative accommodation options!

See you there!





directors direction

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Skydiving is dangerous and that's what attracts us to it. The challenge of facing that danger and beating it by arriving back on the ground safely is what we all strive for and makes us feel great and satisfies that lust for adrenalin.

Not all of us are as successful as we'd like to be in the challenge all the time. Sometimes it's just bad luck or some elements of it but on most occasions it is the lack of relevant information and planning to allow the correct decision making process to take place.

The consequences of going for a jump ill prepared and with insufficient information could have safety implications for ourselves and worse, for others.

Safety in our context is the participation in a dangerous activity at a level commensurate with our skills and information so as we are able to explore safe boundaries and not impose unreasonable risk upon ourselves or others.

Whilst "Safety Management" is everyone's responsibility, it is managed from the top by the APF CEO on behalf of the Board of Directors. The 'Operational Risk Management' component is managed in the field by the Director Safety and filtered on down through the ASOs, CIs, DZSOs, instructors etc.

Critical to safety management is information flow. The cornerstone of this flow is the incident reporting system. The safety management team must know what is happening, what can happen and the concerns of jumpers so as to effectively plan strategies to mitigate and manage risks to a level that is as low as is practically possible and disseminating this information to the membership. The APF is striving for a "Safety Culture" and accepts that mistakes will happen and that incidents will occur. The goal is not to be 'Risk adverse' but rather to manage those risks to enhance safety.

The APF Safety Management team is currently refining and formalising a Safety Management System (SMS) for the Federation. Some of the components are;

- Encouragement of all jumpers to participate in a healthy and robust incident reporting culture.
- Development of an electronic means of timely submission and management of the reports.
- Applying a "Just Culture" so that incident reporting is shown to be appreciated and that only in cases of wilful and deliberate exposure to unreasonable risk attracts punitive action.
- Application of a flexible SMS to cope with changes to the sport and industry.
- Training of our investigating team to enable them to draw the right conclusions from safety information and: implement appropriate reforms and recommendations, communicate these to the membership so that all may be better prepared when facing the possible dangers of a skydive and arriving on the ground still in one piece with that great feeling we all like.



Paul Osborne, APF Director Safety

AIRCRAFT

This past year has been an eventful one with the introduction of new standards for maintenance of jump aircraft and the introduction of a Jump Pilot Authorisation for jump pilots flying parachute operations at APF training organisations.

The introduction of the new requirements on some aircraft operations required some effort but there now appears to be general acceptance of the new requirements.

There have been three aircraft accident/incidents involving aircraft on parachuting operations in the past 4 months. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries in any of the events. All the events involved an engine problem of one type or another. On one event the aircraft was on descent from a sortie.

There was a tragic Fletcher aircraft accident in New Zealand, resulting in the death of 8 parachutists and the pilot. Initial indications are that the parachutists were not restrained and this may have been a contributing factor in the crash. The positioning of parachutists in the aircraft immediately prior to impact may also have played a part.

Should any adverse findings come out of the New Zealand crash investigation, due to the lack of restraint of the jumpers aboard, there will inevitably be a strategy developed in Australia to ensure compliance with the requirement to be restrained in aircraft during critical phases of flight such as landing and takeoff. The Americans mandated the wearing of restraints following a crash which killed 16 jumpers at Perris more than a decade ago. Restraints were worn on a recent jump aircraft crash in NSW and clearly prevented injury to the jumpers. On my last two European trips, all drop zones that I visited required the wearing of restraints. Given the statistics of crashes I feel it is time for all drop zone operators to take a good look at their practices and attitudes to the wearing of restraints. To claim a safety culture in your organisation yet not restrain people in aircraft rings a bit hollow, given we have to restrain our pet dogs in the back of a ute these days.

I must say here, I spent most of my 40 years skydiving unrestrained in an aircraft. The Op. Regs were less than 20 pages when I started jumping. Times have changed, DZ operators are carrying over 100,000 tandem students in aircraft, and those students do rely on their instructor to exercise a duty of care during their skydiving experience, as does the law these days.

In conclusion, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority has approved a recent amendment to our Op. Regs. The amendment relates to pilot qualifications. Basically, the amendment allows a person holding a Commercial Pilots Licence to apply for an APF Jump Pilot Authorisation with less than 200 hours total time.



Graham Hill, APF Director Aircraft

INSTRUCTORS

Since becoming the Director Instructors at the May 2010 Board Meeting, I have been busy dealing with many instructional issues. Eight waivers have been issued over this period for AFF table and DOS/BOC equipment changes. Approximately 60% of the APF training organisations are now using DOS/BOC. A number of new Chief Instructors have been appointed and, unfortunately, some disciplinary matters have and are being dealt with.

The new and improved "A" and "B" Certificate manuals have been reformatted and look great with modern pictures and equipment being showcased. The Canopy Downsizing Matrix has also been added to the "A" Certificate manual and the PIM as a guide to young jumpers purchasing their first rigs and for instructors seeking assistance in guiding young jumpers. This matrix seems to be getting used fairly extensively around the country. Additionally, the "B" Certificate training descent table has had very favourable reviews especially with the implementing of canopy handling drills at "B" Certificate level.

All "IB Tandems" have ceased to exist as we have transitioned to the Instructor "C" qualification.

Fundamentally the IC rating empowers an Instructor to the role of DZSO. The position of DZSO is commensurate with their endorsements ie. AFF, Static Line or Tandem operations. However, there is a bit of confusion about other training descents being supervised by the IC. Essentially that training can be divided into 2 areas. Training that involves jumpers who do not hold a "B" Licence and training that involves jumpers who are "B" Licence and above. An IC without AFF or SL rating can supervise any training descent providing the participant holds at least a "B" Licence and the training is carried out by a qualified tutor or Instructor.

A reminder to all who wish to run any Instructor courses that a structured syllabus needs to be submitted to, and approved by, your area IPC before course commencement. The PIM has had a bit of a makeover and is a good reference to determine the course structure. Structured Instructor courses result in higher scores and overall better training for all concerned. The non structured courses can achieve an adequate pass but tend to lack the other essential information that will see our new instructors better placed to deal with real life situations on the drop zone. To find an IPC approved course, simply contact your area IPC or check out the calendar on the APF website.

Course managers and Examiners may have noticed that all written and oral exams, with exception to the Static Line endorsement, have been updated to more relevant questions and topics. There was a noticeable shortage of questions referring to canopy control, weather, flight planning and target assistance.

The question upgrades were the first step in the preparation of the impending Cyber revalidation exam. At this stage the project is running on schedule and has only been affected by minor technical issues. The second step will be the "in house" trials before being sent out to the Examiners for comment.

Additionally, a more detailed set of study questions has been produced to assist revalidation candidates prior to attempting the revalidation exams. Traditionally only Packer questions were sent as study material whereas now the questions focus on not only packing, but instructional and operational technique as well as Operational Regulations endorsement specific questions.

And finally, on the topic of revalidations, don't forget to check up on your Instructor currency. The APF office no longer sends out reminder letters to you. It's amazing how quickly your two year revalidation period sneaks up on you. Simply get on the APF website and into the member look up.

Don Cross, APF Director Instructors



APF contacts



[APF OFFICE]

PO Box 1440 Springwood QLD 4127
Ph: 07 3457 0100
Fax: 07 3457 0150
Email: apf@apf.asn.au
Web: www.apf.asn.au

APF National Office - Ph: 07 3457 0100 Fax: 07 3457 0150

Chief Executive Officer

Brad Turner ceo@apf.asn.au

Office Manager

Susan Bostock operations@apf.asn.au

Technical Officer

Kim Hardwick technical@apf.asn.au

Manager Training

Gary Myers training@apf.asn.au

National Coach / Development

Emma Wald nationalcoach@apf.asn.au

Accounts Officer

Craig Perrin accounts@apf.asn.au

Office Administrative Assistants

Julie Singh
Simone Bull

[OFFICE BEARERS]

President

Dave Smith 0419 464 112 dave@airsafetysolutions.com.au

Board Chairperson

Jack Cross 0418 774 163 xjac@bigpond.net.au

Secretary & Public Officer

Geoff Campbell 0418 273 498 geoff.campbell@dnexia.com.au

[BOARD MEMBERS]

South Queensland

Jason Cook 0407 756 540 cookie@cookecomposites.com
Andrew Preston 0412 697 293 preston@qldbar.asn.au

New South Wales

Grahame Hill 0419 722 577 hihilly@optusnet.com.au
Mark Szulmayer 0414 684 740 mszulmayer@hotmail.com

Victoria

Carsten Boeving 0401 145 489 carsten.boeving@bigpond.com
John Kinton 0407 287 590 johnkinton@bigpond.com

South Australia

Allan Gray 0411 875 867 info@adelaideskydiving.com.au

Western Australia

Graham Cook 0418 934 535 sthrnsky@iinet.net.au

Northern Territory

Trevor Collins 0401 118 203 trevor.collins@bigpond.com
Alistair Bates 0409 495 682 alibates@iinet.net.au

North Queensland

Jack Cross 0418 774 163 xjac@bigpond.net.au
Des Ewing 0402 156 139 dezewing@hotmail.com

A.C.T.

Neil Fergie 0401 736 920 neilandsharan@fergiefamily.com

[HONORARY BOARD OF MANAGEMENT]

Brad Turner 0417 550 077 ceo@apf.asn.au
Jack Cross 0418 774 163 xjac@bigpond.net.au
Graham Hill 0419 722 577 hihilly@optusnet.com.au
Dave Smith 0419 464 112 dave@airsafetysolutions.com.au

[TECHNICAL DIRECTORS]

Safety

Paul Osborne 0417 713 166 p1953@bigpond.com

Instructors

Don Cross 0412 289 103 didon@internode.on.net

Competition

Vacant

Rigging

Rory Hatchett 0412 908 071 roryh@pobox.com

Judging

Lindy Rochow-Williams 07 5545 2766 lindyr@austarnet.com.au

Aircraft Operations

Grahame Hill 0419 722 577 hihilly@optusnet.com.au

National Development

Vacant

directors direction

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2011

A LITTLE EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT THAT? I HEAR YOU SAY?

If you don't start thinking about it now, then when? You need time to get your team together, start training and set some goals in order to make it happen.

"I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF JUMPS AND I'M PRETTY NEW TO THE SPORT!"

There is so much more to competing than just winning medals! All you need is the desire to improve your skills and have some fun and becoming part of a team is the best way to learn from others whilst sharing the excitement of skydiving with your friends and teammates!

I HAVE A TEAM BUT WE PROBABLY WON'T WIN – WHY SHOULD WE GO?

Everybody has to start somewhere! The experience will be amazing and you will have the opportunity to learn from all those Aussie legends. Get some practise by participating in local competitions & state championships & jump with tutors wherever possible.

NOT SURE WHAT'S INVOLVED? NEED HELP TO PUT A TEAM TOGETHER?

Talk to the experienced skydivers on your D.Z, talk to your CI, your state or national coach and visit the APF Website.

VISIT OTHER DZ'S, JUMP OUT OF A DIFFERENT PLANE, MEET SOME NEW FRIENDS, GET SOME COMPETITION EXPERIENCE. WHO KNOWS, YOU JUST MIGHT BECOME THE NEXT AUSTRALIAN CHAMPION ON YOUR WAY TO COMPETING AT THE WORLD PARACHUTING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2012!



CANOPY PILOTING

16 – 20 FEB, 2011

SYDNEY SKYDIVERS, PICTON

4 & 8WAY FS, VFS, CF & AE

12 – 21 MAR, 2011

SYDNEY SKYDIVERS, PICTON

STYLE & ACCURACY

17 – 19 JUNE, 2011

COASTAL SKYDIVERS

PORT MACQUARIE NSW

16WAY FS & 10WAY SPEED STAR

29 – 31 DEC, 2010

SYDNEY SKYDIVERS, PICTON



APF national office

SMS - TAKING SAFETY SERIOUSLY!

Our right to skydive is something we rarely question, we assume it's as easy as 'pay your money, take your chances' however this is a long way from reality. The APF works hard behind the scenes with Regulatory services such as CASA, AirServices, ATSB etc to ensure its members continue to enjoy the right to skydive.

The APF has to provide assurance to the Regulators that it is able to self-administer the Sport of Parachuting in Australia including ensuring appropriate oversight of our activities and management of risks, regulations are applied and enforced and activities are being conducted safely. It does this by complying to schedules in a Deed of Agreement with CASA, for which the APF receives funding.

The 2009 Deed of Agreement directed the APF to, amongst other items, develop and implement an **Industry Safety Management System (SMS)**.

What is a SMS?

A safety management system is a business-like approach to safety. It is a systematic, explicit, comprehensive process for managing safety risks.

Does the APF have an SMS?

The APF already has most of the 'components' of an SMS and in fact is in front of other organisations in some areas. However we tend to manage a lot of our processes 'intuitively' meaning we rely on experience and gut feeling with little to no formalisation. This results in a lack of consistency which in turn brings risk. We basically lack the framework and structure to pull all our fantastic processes, ideas, and experience together into one consistent, cohesive set of practices, policies and principles, which are integrated, formalised and documented.

That's an SMS!

Consequently 12 months ago work commenced on a formal Industry SMS with representatives from the APF undertaking training programs. It is important to note that whilst initially we were geared by motives of 'compliance' it quickly became obvious that developing and implementing a formal SMS was a 'very good thing to do' and every APF member will reap the benefits.

However good Safety Management is more than just a legal and moral requirement, internationally it is now recognised that a structured **Safety Management System (SMS)** is an essential feature of most organisations. There is growing recognition that safety programs can improve an organisation's operating performance and safety defences with further benefits than improvement of safety measures.

What's involved in developing an SMS?

Step one is completion of an Industry SMS Framework Document & SMS Manual which in short, provides a blue print or map, of every policy, process and procedure within our rather complex organisation! It will define what we do and how we do it, who is responsible for what and where everything can be found. It is 'living document' which means it will be ever changing and evolving with us as we grow and change. This will take considerable time to complete as there are a number of development programs required within the SMS program.

As the blue print and manual is written, deficiencies will be addressed. Processes and procedures will be improved and reviewed with work already started on improved training programs for Instructors, Council elected officials, members and clubs alike. A complete redevelopment of all APF manuals and publications is nearing completion with some innovative improvements about to come into play that will support our SMS.

So what is the role of the average 'Jo Jumper' in all of this?

Step one: Join us in developing a 'safety culture' within our organisation; it will bring further reaching benefits for all stakeholders and requires the active involvement of all members! We need you!!

What is a safety culture?

A safety culture is making safety such an integral part of our organisation that we don't notice it's there. We don't have to think about it, we don't have to try to implement it, it's just part of the way we do business every day, from the APF Board right down the line to the student.

The behaviours of a safety culture must be modelled and demonstrated repeatedly for all to witness, it cannot just be a slogan, or safety poster, it has to become a behaviour. From the C.I who mentors the new instructor, to the instructor with the power to influence an individual's first exposure, to the experienced jumper who provides the role model for the novices, all play a part in developing a 'safety culture'. Only once we take safety sufficiently seriously and it becomes part of everyday operations will we see our true safety culture emerge.

How do we develop a safety culture?

There are many elements that have an effect on a culture including:

- **Individual behaviours, actions and attitudes** – the example we set when involved in pursuit of parachuting, especially those in roles of authority
- **Compliance with regulations** – a healthy respect for regulations and the role they play in governing the sport and enhancing safety
- **Regard for processes and procedures** – compliant with and supportive of
- **Reporting culture** - report incidents or occurrences so others may learn from mistakes – supported by a non-punitive just culture

What is our culture today?

Whilst there are many exceptions and variations, we tend to be risk takers, with a 'she'll be right' attitude and are largely happy to take chances and push the limits to some extent!

It is quite alarming to look back over the years and note how we seem not to have learnt from our mistakes, we keep pushing the same boundaries and having the same outcomes. Near misses or close calls are part of life.

Does any of the below ring true to you?

Are you guilty of pushing the limits just to get that last load done?

Do you make decisions based on safety or do you find yourself 'up there wishing you were down here'?

Are you motivated by your pocket in your decision to proceed in marginal conditions?

Do you party hard then lead the charge to jump the next morning because that's what you've always done?

Are you the instructor on the load that 'smells of last night's grog'??

Are you willing to speak up if you think someone is acting dangerously or taking chances or do you shrug it off as 'not my problem'?

Do you wear a single point restraint and insist others do the same?

The APF Board, CEO and Safety Teams are committed to improving and enhancing safety within our organisation. They are committed to providing the membership with the governance and guidance, the structure, the resources, the tools, the training and education programs, to support the goal of a true 'safety culture'.

Our SMS campaign will begin in earnest in the new-year and you will start to see the results and influence at your DZ very soon. We ask you to open your minds, embrace the change and join us in Taking Safety Seriously!

Susan Bostock, Operations Manager

SPORT DEVELOPMENT FUNDING – “BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN”

Have you been tasked with organising an event at your drop zone, or are you looking to develop your team's skills through some coaching? Did you know financial assistance is available to you? Do you know the details of the Sport Development Fund?

What is the Sport Development Fund?

The SDF is a funding program designed to assist with the costs associated with developing the sport - be it through training camps, competitions, national or international coaching or a boogie.

The intention of the funding is to benefit as many APF members as possible, spreading the funding love throughout all disciplines and states.

Who looks after the SDF?

The SDF is overseen by the APF Funding Committee, which makes the decisions on the amount of funding distributed each year, as well as providing recommendations to the APF HBoM and Board regarding the outcome of applications.

Levels of Funding:

	Amount of Funding	Conditions	Assessed by
Level 1	Up to \$1,500	No other financial support*	National Coach and CEO
Level 2	Up to \$5,000	State Council funding support required*	Funding Committee and HBoM
Level 3	Unlimited	State council AND other funding support required*	Funding Committee and APF Board

*Funding provided from drop zones and other additional sources is highly regarded.

Examples of previous successful applications include:

- Training camps with national and international coaches such as **Mick Nuttall, Chris Gay, Jay Moledzki, Michael Vaughan and James Evered.**
- Skills workshops such as **Brian Germain canopy seminars.**
- Competitions (not state or national) such as 4way4every1.
- Boogies such as **Equinox, Afterlife, Go Troppo, Full Moon Boogie and the WA Easter Boogie.**

Examples of budget items suitable for funding:

- Airfares for national and international coaches
- Coaching slots
- Coach fees
- Accommodation/packing/food for coaches

If you are holding an event that doesn't fit into any of these categories, or if you have any concerns with writing a grant application, please contact the National Coach for assistance.

Hot tips to getting your application approved:

- Read the application carefully. Make sure you fully understand what is being asked of you for each question and do exactly as the question asks. There is no word limit, so use as much detail as possible.
- Be clear and concise in your writing. Remember, the point of writing the grant application is so you can demonstrate to the APF that your event will develop the sport, how and why.
- Ask your State Council and drop zone for assistance first. Level 2 and 3 applications will not proceed without State Council support.
- It will help your application to collect letters of support from people that this event will benefit. This includes skydivers, coaches, drop zones, etc where appropriate.
- Include an itemised budget. If you do not include quotes for expenses, or if you have just estimated at costs without substantiation, it will be investigated by the National Coach and the funding may be based on the cheapest quote available. Providing quotes also proves that you have been researching for the event.
- Ask the National Coach for help. I won't hold your hand, but I am more than happy to guide you!

All of the relevant information along with application forms are on the APF website: <http://www.apf.asn.au/Members/Sport-Development-Funding/default.aspx>

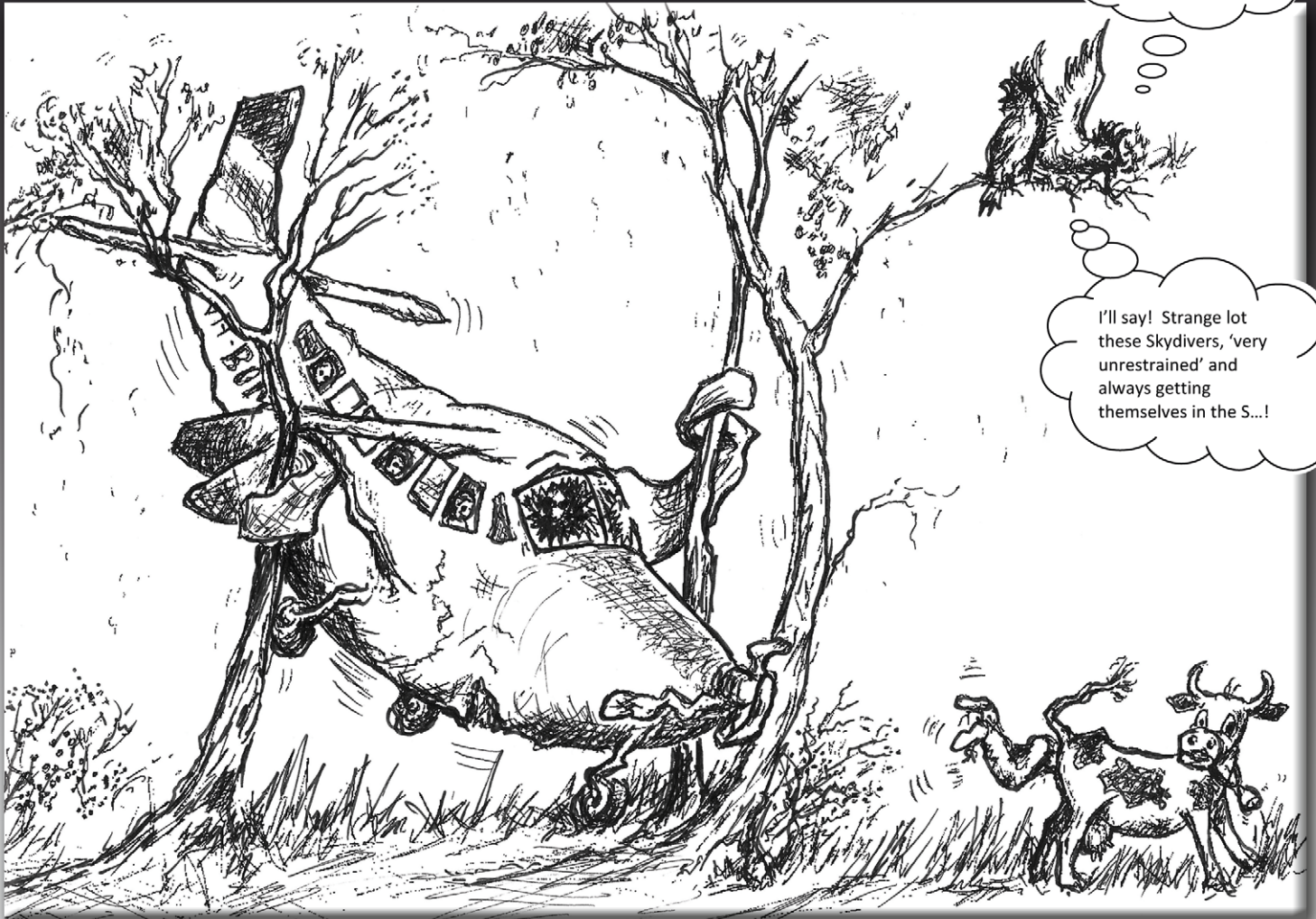
Annually, the APF allocates \$45,000 in Level 1 and Level 2 Funding. It's up to you to apply!

Emma Wald, National Coach

APF SMS

'Taking Safety Seriously'

Bugger, unusual exit, that's gotta hurt!



I'll say! Strange lot these Skydivers, 'very unrestrained' and always getting themselves in the S...!

**BE SMART, SHOW
RESTRAINT &
BUCKLE UP!**

A Safety Message brought to you by the APF Safety Team



Safety matters

*As skydivers, we can feel less deeply the anguish of knowing the impermanence of love, and of those we love. Skydiving *celebrates* life's impermanence with a brilliant brightness, floods it with a blinding light. Ultimately, it reminds us that life is very fragile, but very brave.*

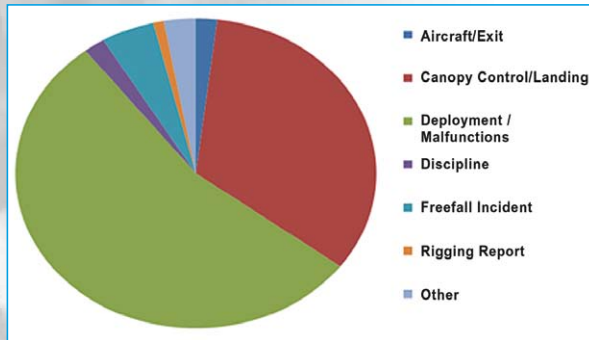


Table 1. Breakdown of total reported incidents (105). 3rd quarter 2010.

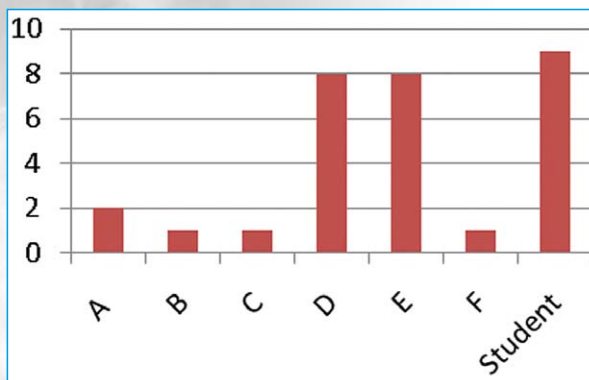


Table 2. 30 Incidents resulting in injury from 3rd quarter 2010.

CONFIDENTIAL EMBARGO. This information is provided in the interests of accident prevention and is intended to facilitate safety studies within appropriate organizations. It must not be published without the prior approval of the APF's Director of Safety. It has been compiled from the information available, and issued rapidly in the interests of safety. Further investigation may reveal errors or other pertinent information. These reports are for the use of APF members only and should not be used otherwise.

CANOPY COLLISION 25TH September 2010

Date & time of Accident: 25/9/2010 - 12:45pm	Main: Stiletto 120
DZ Location: NQ	Wing Loading: 1:1.3
Sex: Female	Reserve: Airforce 120
Age: 51	Wing Loading: 1:1.3
Exit weight: 72kg	Harness/Container: Talon
APF Certificate: E	Main Deployment Type: BOC
Jump No: 7464	AAD: CYPRES 2
Time in Sport: 26 years	RSL: No
Jump Type: FS 4 way competition	Helmet: full face (Sky Systems)
Aircraft: C208	Cause of Death: Impact



Compiled by:
Kim Hardwick

Other person in collision

Sex: Male	Main: J VX 90
Age: 42	Wing Loading: 1:2.2
Exit weight: 99kgs	Reserve: PD113R
APF Certificate: F	Harness/container: Javelin Odyssey
Jump No: 12,500+	Main deployment: BOC
Time in sport: 19 years	No AAD or RSL
Jump Type: FS 4 way competition	Helmet: Cookie Rok (open face)
Aircraft: C208	Injuries: Emotional

Background & Jump

The incident occurred on the eighth (8) load of the day and involved a person from two separate 4 way teams. The video shows team 2 exiting 14.7 seconds after the first team. The pilot reports an exit ground speed as being consistent throughout the day as being between 100 and 105 knots. This makes the distance between the exits approximately 750-800 meters. Video shows the first team conducting its jump clear of cloud while the second team's camera footage shows them entering cloud as they approach break off height. This footage shows the deceased tracking off and disappearing in the cloud.

The jumper from team one had opened their main canopy and was flying at an oblique angle back towards the drop zone which, coincidentally, was towards the opening point of the jumper from the second group.

Witnesses report seeing jumper two deploying just above and becoming fully open immediately in front of jumper one. Jumper one was observed taking immediate action to avoid jumper two but they collided anyway.

Jumper two then became extensively entangled in jumper one's main canopies suspension lines. Jumper one cut away and landed under their reserve parachute without further incident.

Jumper two was seen under their main canopy dealing with twists and trying to free her altimeter arm that was wrapped in her risers as well as deal with the entangled main canopy of jumper one.

Jumper two's reserve was deployed but it launched up into jumper one's main canopy and they became extensively entangled.

Jumper two descended under three canopies until impact. None of which were fully open.

Jumper two landed heavily on a gravel road and attempts to revive her by paramedics and first responders proved to be unsuccessful.

Equipment

The equipment was in serviceable condition prior to this jump and the AAD had not activated when inspected on the ground after the jump.

MALFUNCTION – Late Emergency Procedure Response 22nd August 2010

DZ Location: SQ	Main: Crossfire 169
Aircraft: C208	Wing Loading: 1.3
Sex: Male	Reserve: Smart 190
Age: 57	Harness/Container: Wings
Exit weight: 97kg	Main Deployment Type: BOC
APF Certificate: D 666	AAD: Argus
Jump No: 802	RSL: Not fitted
Jump Type: 9 way star crest	Helmet: Cookie Rock
Time in Sport: 1977-1980 = 297 jumps, 2007 – 2010 = 505 jumps. Total 7 years.	Injuries Sustained: Vertebrae fractures, nerve damage and cuts to tongue requiring stitches

The harness/container was cut off jumper 2 by paramedics to assist with the resuscitation attempt. Apart from these deliberate cuts to the main lift web, the harness/container shows extensive line burn damage to the front and back of the harness/container which supports the conclusion of a collision and entanglement with suspension lines.

Jumper 2's reserve and jumper 1's main canopies were extensively entangled and her reserve pilot chute was also wrapped up in this canopy entanglement.

Weather

Winds were approximately 4-8 knots from the north @ FL140. The weather was fine with scattered cloud (4/8ths) between 4000 & 6000feet. Wind on the ground was less than 5 knots.

The spot

Jump run was south to north and offset to the east by 200meters. The green light was given one (1) mile before the airport reference point. All exits were completed by point two of a mile past this reference point.

Conclusion

After an uneventful skydive jumper 2 was observed tracking off into cloud. This track positioned them in close proximity to a jumper from the first formation.

Jumper one was in the process of stowing his slider when jumper two's main parachute opened in front of him and despite an aggressive, evasive turn, their canopies collided heavily wrapping jumper 2 in the suspension lines of his main parachute.

Jumper one was in the wrong place at the right time and did not contribute to this situation escalating to the level that it did. He saved a life by cutting away and deploying his reserve parachute.

Full face helmets make communication all but impossible when caught up in a canopy wrap and there was no evidence of a hook knife being available.

Jumper 2 was observed attempting to improve their situation for the rest of the descent but the combination of the entangled, non-inflated canopies plus an altimeter arm being caught up in the cutaway main risers made this task impossible.

Recommendations

1. if you exit short of the airport reference point, loiter under canopy with your group until you see the next group's canopies before you fly up the line of flight back to the drop zone.
2. do not break off high and ensure that you track just enough to be clear of your own group.
3. do not track away into cloud. If aiming at a cloud bank maneuver away into clear skies.
4. delay "housekeeping" ie. Slider, boosters etc until you are positive that you clear of other canopies.
5. do read the "canopy collisions" article by Fiona McEachern that's on the APF web site.

www.apf.asn.au/Members/Information/Canopy-Collisions/default.aspx

This accident is a tragic reminder of how a simple series of unrelated events all coming together can lead to a fatal outcome.

Most accidents originate in actions committed by reasonable, rational individuals who were acting to achieve an assigned task in what they perceived to be a responsible and professional manner.

Background:

He had completed 80 jumps in the preceding six months and 14 in the last month. This incident was his 3rd reserve activation with the previous on jump #661 29/11/09. (His first cut-away was in the late '70's early 80's on about his 200th jump. It was a streamer due to free stowing and emergency procedures were initiated quickly and correctly). The second reserve activation was due to an out of control, off heading opening with line twists and subsequent cut away. This was a different main, a Pilot 188 and he described the cause as being due to needing a reline of that canopy.

The Jump:

The jumper had been jumping the preceding day without incident.

He was part of a group of jumpers dedicating their time and expertise to help the up and coming jumpers trying to achieve their star crest.

His demeanor was good and he appeared healthy.

He dirt dived the jump with all scenarios of break off and deployment heights.

The jumper completed the 9-way jump and tracked for deployment at 2500ft. While many jumpers do deploy at higher altitudes, this was his normal deployment height and within our guidelines. On opening he encountered a sudden spiraling main canopy. He tried to ascertain the cause of the turn, unsuccessfully. He then felt he was low and decided to cut away and deploy his reserve.

The reserve had not completely opened when the jumper hit the ground.

He impacted, upright into a freshly ploughed paddock, which was quite moist and relatively soft. The jumper did lose consciousness for a brief period but was found to be coherent but unaware at that time of how he got to be where he was found.

He was given First Aid by another jumper from the load, who landed near him. He was then air lifted to hospital.

Equipment: The AAD did not activate as the rate of descent was relatively low. There is no suggestion that any component of the equipment contributed to the incident.

The main canopy and reserve free-bag landed very close to the jumper. On inspection, the main canopy had the brakes set on one side only. There were no line twists during the incident. The gear was inspected by the resident DZ Rigger.

Other considerations:

The state of the brakes suggests an error in packing. This is the first key causal factor. The time between opening (2000ft) and cutaway (500ft) under a relatively slowly descending main canopy would have provided quite a long time to correct the problem. The fact that the jumper took so long is the second key causal factor here.

This would be due to the jumper losing altitude awareness. The jumper can offer no explanation for his long delay in initiating emergency procedures. He remembers suddenly becoming aware that he had delayed too long and then immediately commenced emergency procedures, remembers looking at his handles and doing things quickly but correctly.

Witnesses commented that the reserve activation was immediate after separation. This may have saved his life.

The reserve size and softness of the landing area where he impacted may have prevented a fatal outcome.

A skyhook pilot chute may have also have provided a quicker opening.

The use of Reserve Lanyard may also have prevented this incident from progressing to a Serious Incident.

Even though his injuries are serious, this jumper could easily have sustained far more serious injuries.

His injuries were mainly restricted to his spine and tongue. His feet and legs were not injured. Some early tingling in the left leg has been attributed to possible nerve damage.

His tongue required 4 stitches and there was some minor chipping of teeth and looseness.

He was diagnosed with fractures to his L1 and T12 spinal vertebrae with floating bone fragments. Initially the L1 was repaired with a plate and pins. There was some uncertainty as to the origin of aspects of the injuries as the jumper had an opening shock injury about 18 months beforehand which may have damaged his T8. His initial prognosis was for a full recovery but this has since been revised with uncertainty over nerve damage. The surgeons are still exploring the origin of symptoms and considering treatment options.

Conclusion:

This incident has two causal factors, which if they were addressed, should have prevented the jumper's injuries.

Preventive measures:

Proper monitoring of packing procedures.

Constant reviewing and rehearsal of all aspects of emergency procedures.

Rectification and remedial action taken:

A significant number of fatalities have occurred simply by not pulling the reserve ripcord earlier. Whether the cause be from low separation, low deployment, low cutaway or stabilizing after cutaway, the priority is to initiate and complete the Emergency Procedure.

The individual jumper has been counseled and had these points made to him.

Each DZSO should ensure that there is a system to reinforce this to all jumpers on their DZ on a frequent basis, especially irregular jumpers.

Education in these matters is not something that is done and completed. It is a constant, ongoing responsibility of those in charge.

LOW MAIN ACTIVATION resulting in AAD fire and 2 Canopies Deployed 23rd October 2010

'E' Certificate jumper with 830 jumps over 10 years was engaged in a solo free-fly jump resulting in an incident that involved loss of height awareness; late main (Crossfire 129) activation; an AAD (CYPRES) fire and two canopies deployed. After cutting away the main, with little time opportunity remaining to be able to take control of the reserve (Tempo 150) or select a safe landing area, the canopy stalled after being flared with rear risers, resulting in multiple injuries to the parachutist. (Vertebrae fractures T-1,4,9 & 11, L. Knee: ruptured ACL, torn medial ligament & cartilage damage).

This jump was a photo shoot and the jumper was wearing roller derby gear (skates, elbow & knee pads, helmet). She is actively involved in this sport as well.

The jumper forgot to switch her Dytter from her skydiving helmet to her Roller Derby helmet. She said she realized this as she approached the emplaning area and she intended to advise the cameraman to ensure he would signal her at the end of the skydive. She forgot to do so.

The Jump:

Exit and initial freefall were uneventful until towards the end when her Equinox registration wallet, which was around her neck and tucked down her top (T-Shirt), escaped. She was still in an upright, vertical position. She grabbed it and transferred to her left hand. She estimates this at 5000ft. She then maintained this position until she saw the cameraman deploy.

She then went to a face to earth position and deployed soon after. She says she did not check her wrist altimeter as she was distracted. She said she looked at the ground and felt it was closer than it should be, so deployed. Her normal deployment height is above 3000ft. On this jump, she would have been between 2000 and 2500. Her Crossfire normally takes 1000ft to open and the CYPRES armed before the canopy was fully open. The CYPRES fired shortly afterwards. When the jumper realized the reserve was out she cutaway. When the reserve was fully open she went to release the brakes but missed one and was close to landing over trees. She needed to stop trying to release the other brake and elected to flare on rear risers. She stalled the canopy and landed heavily. She does not believe the roller skates contributed to the knee injury.

Conclusion:

The jumper's initial decision (to jump without an Audible altimeter), which seemed minor to her at the time, was the main causal factor. Her reaction (not checking her altimeter) in an unusual circumstance was the second. (The photo shoot may have contributed to her distraction). Her delayed reaction on seeing the cameraman deploy was the third. A small sports canopy taking 1000' to open was the fourth factor in causing the reserve opening. The difficulty in releasing the brakes in the short time available was the fifth. The final factor was performing an unfamiliar procedure (rear riser flare on her reserve), which resulted in the hard landing and injuries.

A simple photo jump for a parachutist with a good safety record, beginning with a seemingly small deviation from standard procedures, has resulted in serious consequences.

Rectification and remedial action taken:

The individual jumper has been counseled and had these points made to her. Her attitude has been good and she faces a significant layoff from both her chosen activities.

This incident underlines the need for all jumpers to treat every jump as one in which all rules must be followed and every aspect of their jumping (equipment, procedures review, weather, etc), be given regular consideration.

This is a good example for use in active promotion of Safety Awareness at a club level and all levels above.

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SKYDIVE SURFSIDE

By Jules McConnel Photos by Matt Alison

Beach jumps, mountain jumps, night jumps – it's all been happening at Skydive Surfside now the winter woollies are no longer needed!

We kick started spring with the October long weekend in Jindabyne – flying over the Snowy Mountains and Lake Jindabyne and landing back at Jindabyne airport – it is such a beautiful spot we're now making it a regular event! The local pub looked after us with awesome accommodation so we looked after them and took all the staff for tandems. Tim took Jay, Ria and KC up for a memorial jump for Fiona on Friday afternoon – a truly memorable moment for them all, particularly Ria who grew her first grey hair as DZSO for the jump! Our next trip is already planned for December and we'll be roughing it up a little bit camping on the airport – yeehah!

Looks like night jumps are going to be a regular hit over summer – what a great way to get everyone to the DZ on a Friday night for a BBQ and action! KC, Kyl, Kit, Josh and Jay all did their first night jumps this time around and the gathering is already looking huge for the next full moon!

I ran the first of many canopy courses for this summer (so although I said first, it's technically not beer cause I've run them here before) teaching the local jumpers how to be safe and have fun under canopy. A colourful weekend with streamer jumps and biplane landings – I think we have more CRW pups in the making ;-)

Congrats to Shane on his 100th jump, KC and Jed both did their 200th, and Kyle for his 400th! Looks like plenty more milestones are just around the corner...

We're shaping up to have a rockin' summer here at Skydive Surfside – we've AFF courses every other week which means more people to play with and loads for the locals to hop on after work – KC, Jake, Kyl and Bingie are lovin' it! The Cresco is lined up to make New Year's the best non-boogie ever! Surfs up!

Jules & KC landing 2-stack



Jules & KC landing 2-stack



Night jumpers



Jed Smith landing from his 200th jump

IT'S A DONE DEAL... after all the rumours, speculation and whispers... and several "false starts" Ralph's tenacity has paid off and we now have a kick arse Turbine at Bridgy, the 2nd in Victoria. As you can imagine the crew at Bridgy are beside themselves with excitement. Summer is looking GREAT! Thank you Ralph!

Early September we saw off our super trooper Michael Young with a "Camo" party before he headed off to Kapooka training camp and then deployed to Afghanistan to build bridges. Our thoughts and best wishes are with him for a safe journey back to us. Duncan (oops Jordan) got confused and instead of dressing as a Colonel in the Army, dressed as Colonel Sanders! This would have been fine had he remembered to bring the chicken! Little John led his one-man protest with his "make love not war" posters, slowly recruiting others to his cause. A guest appearance was made by Rambo (aka Cory Betts) who was also converted to a peace lover by the end!"

A memorial Jump was held for Fiona and Buffy, both true ambassadors of the sport and inspirations to all who they came in contact with. Pink roses and pictures of Bender (Futurama character) were cast out of the plane to honour their beautiful spirits before the crew made their tribute jump. They will forever be remembered and sadly missed.

"Parachute for Poverty" for the Burmese refugees was next on the agenda. With two planes piloted by Glenn and Jock, 31 locals took the plunge doing their first tandem, raising funds for the local Karen refugees now calling Bendigo home. It was also to kick start a plantation project, including an orphanage and school in Thailand. With live music, face painting for the kids, Thai cuisine, media coverage and heaps more, it turned out to be a very successful day. Bridgy was pleased to be able to support and host such a worthy event. Big thanks to Tandem masters Bernie, Corey, Nikki and Mark for all their hard work on the day, to Little John for his fine camera work once again, and the rest of the crew who made the day the success it was.

A big day was followed by a big night... it was time to P A R T Y with Matty's induction to the "Dirty 30's" club. With family and friends there I've never heard the bell ring sooo much.

There was no rest for the wicked, as the next day a few dedicated souls (Bernie, Little John, Corey, Cory and Dave) took part in a display jump into the local footy field to support the local "Jolly Jumbuck Jamboree". Armed with flour filled



Memorial Jump

stockings tied to an ankle, their efforts to be creative were thwarted by the skies, with the flour blending in with the clouds... however they still managed to be the show stoppers for the day.

The highlight of the month was definitely the Canopy Handling Course with Michael Vaughan. It was an action and information packed weekend for all skill levels, even for those who didn't jump. The days started with Michael asking everyone some basic questions, including why they were attending. Some of the responses were priceless! Examples: "Oh my God! ... 'cause... 'cause... your Michael Vaughan... I mean... why else?" (see, you're famous now Bianca) to: "I wanna swoop... Can you teach me to swoop?" (oh Ben.. only you would say that!) And swoop he did, though I don't think landing in the water was the original intention! And not to be left out, Ania gave us some excitement by landing her canopy with incorrectly stowed breaks... (2nd jump on her new rig). She came gliding in shouting "my breaks are stuffed, my breaks are stuffed". Elegant to the end, she landed sliding in on her butt. Good work Ania!

With hop'n'pops from 5,000ft, landings were filmed and then examined and discussed in the classroom. Everyone walked away with improved skills and a better understanding and appreciation of canopy handling techniques. Thank you Michael for all your efforts over the weekend and a very special thank you to the APF Sport Development Fund for providing the funds for Michael to make the trip from NSW. Also thanks to the VPC who also provided some funding to cover some of the coaching costs, which reduced the cost of the course for those attending. It's support like this that gives jumpers of all experience levels access to the knowledge and skills of Michael's calibre. It is most appreciated.



Duncan, LJ, Cory, Mick and Neang at Mick's Camo Party



Canopy course with Michael Vaughan

Dave Cush about to dock on Matt H



Shanno, Dave, Ash and Matty H tracking dive



Matty H and Dave Cushing



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Photo: Eric Johnson- MSF

COMMANDO SKYDIVERS

By Kelly Brennan

TM Darrius Caufield Photo: Phil McComb

It was a case of the wedding belle over the beer bell for the Tooradin boys on a recent weekend. They suited up to watch Dan Cross tie the knot, and – naturally enough – stopped by the DZ to do a leap on the way to the nuptials. The ominous but high grey cloud didn't deter them, and the wedding also went wonderfully well despite the outdoor setting and torrential rain.

There has been plenty to celebrate at our little coastal DZ lately. Melbourne is emerging from one of the wettest winters in recent memory, but many diehard members of Commando Skydivers have been going hard during gaps in the weather.

Matt, Chris, Goran, Luke, Rochelle and Neville all managed to snare their 'A' licences. We reckon they deserve some sort of swimming accolade as well for their ability to cope with the sodden student paddock. At least there's a heated packing room to head back to after the jumps.

Bec, Rob and Cameron persevered through cold, wet and challenging weekends to earn their 'B' licences, and Bec also gained her 'C'. Dave and Adam added a 'D' to their collections, while Geoff Munday picked up an Instructor rating.

Special congratulations for Brian Kirkham on his 1,000th jump. That's an awesome milestone, Brian. He is also popular for bringing the hottest chick to the DZ. McKenzie Kirkham is a cheerful, friendly little toddler who provides plenty of laughs.

This summer is ultra special for our club, as we celebrate our 50th birthday. A new book on our history reads like a who's who in Aussie skydiving, with five decades of stories and 400+ photos. (All for the price of \$30 plus postage. That's less than a jump ticket! Email kerplunk1967@hotmail.com.au)

Our 50th anniversary weekend, 4-7th February, is shaping up to be HUGE. There'll be coaching in most disciplines over four days of jumping from a Caravan. We'll pull out our formal best for a massive dinner at Albert Park, celebrating the legends of our club and our sport. We're also planning a mass demo into the park. Put it in your diary, book your air fares and join us in the peak of Melbourne's summer at our beautiful DZ on Westernport Bay.



Jason and Simon tracking jump



Paul's tandem training with Darrius



TM Darrius with passenger all set to go



Wedding Guests





This dark Victorian winter the cheery and taller than average bunch that make up Skydive Nagambie have fortuitously out-stared floods, leaped closed bridges in a single bound and scoffed in a cavalier manner at water falling from the sky in plague like proportions. The un-shackling of winter and eventual arrival of a somewhat lackadaisical spring was generally greeted with wild rapturous abandon, though it is rumoured the silhouette of Jon de Wet could be seen shaking an angry fist at ancient gods for disturbing the study regimen he'd maintained over winter.

Nonetheless, it's been a hectic couple of months maintaining a pace and clear-headedness only achievable by sober people in daylight hours. We've kept up a steady output of very promising AFF graduates who persevered through the unpredictable conditions and now find themselves well positioned to enjoy a magnificent summer. Well done to Duncan, Mike, Aaron, the 2 Andrew's, Tim, Aidan, Dayne, Bo and many more.

Our first ABC camp of the jumping year saw a fresh group of whuffos become skydivers and Michael Vaughan imparting his wise and wonderful knowledge to a keen course of jumpers.

4-way For Everyone was impressively attended, so much so that our brilliant, brave and noble pilot Rob (who is single) was



destined to be flying from sunrise to sunset. The inaugural Freely for Everyone competition was a raving success, organised by Linsey Fitzpatrick and ably assisted by assorted additions from our accumulating stockpile of tall and debonair freely tutors.

Rather awesomely, no less than 15 of our regular jumpers are off to throw their hats (and quite possibly shoes) into the wind tunnel in Eloy in the next few months, which will only serve to exponentially increase the skill level of the whole DZ and further boost the momentum behind all these freeflyers who already walk around like they own the place.

Fresh from the aircraft tinkering wizards that live over the horizon is our much beloved EFY, now replete with some kind of super-turbo mechanical noise making device behind the spinny thing. Reborn, she's happily capable of depositing four jumpers at 14k before they've had the chance to put their

FREEFLY FOR EVERYONE 2010

Words and pictures by Linsey Fitzpatrick

Saturday 9th October saw Skydive Nagambie host Relworkers event Freely for Everyone (FF4E1). FF4E1 is a friendly freely competition aiming to promote freely, develop freely skills, provide competition experience and ensure access to freely tutors. Participants completed a series of three head-up jumps of increasing difficulty one-on-one with a freely tutor. The tutors also provided video footage which was judged with much thanks to APF judge Jenni. Tutors were local Nagambie jumpers Clayton, Macca, Dingo and myself.

We had eleven awesome and keen participants give it their all in the battle for freely glory! This number almost doubles that of last year, go freely!! Despite several camera malfunctions, one participant having to leave early and a last minute dash to beat the light, we managed to get through all jumps. Jumps were of a really high quality and everyone should be applauded for their tremendous efforts.

Big congratulations to Steve (Gold), Rob (Silver) and Shelly (Bronze). Competition was so close that Rob and Shelly finished with the same total number of points and so were separated by greatest number of points in any one jump, with Rob scoring 7 and Shelly 6. Also achieving great things was Carol who took out the Most Promising Freely award. We will be eagerly watching you Carol!

Special mention also goes out to Ryan who jumped the overall highest number of points with 17 but was handicapped by the handicap, and to Tracey who jumped the most points in any one jump, scoring 9 in time.

Freely has really taken off at Nagambie and with fifteen local jumpers set to hit the tunnel in coming months, we are expecting bigger and better things... and some awesome jumps this summer! Look forward to seeing even more freeflyers at FF4E1 next year.



"Freely space" board created by Linsey to promote freely and teach upcoming freeflyers



Most promising freely winner, Carol



Steve, Ryan, Shelly and Rob

Name	Handicap	Total Score	Place
Steve Williamson	1.2	22.8	1
Rob Delaney	1.2	16.8	2
Shelly Williamson	1.2	16.8	3
Ryan Dudderidge	0.8	13.6	4
Carol Valdes	1.4	9.8	5
Trent Barnes	1.4	9.8	6
Tracey Lane	0.6	9	7
Barry Nelson	1.0	9	8
Mark Richardson	1.2	4.8	9
Matt Hill	0.4	3.6	10
Kim (Scuddy) Foster	0.2	1.8	11



goggles on, perfect for mid-week jumps. Additionally, our now over-stuffed hangar is left bristling with the further brilliance of Don's rather magnificent and potent looking RV super fast stunt plane.

There has been much unjudgemental rejoicing at the return to our flock of a foolish few who sought happiness and inner peace in parts of the globe so far flung they aren't Nagambie. Welcome back Emmy from her time in darkest UK and Matty Carr from his walkabout in Canada, Wokka has returned from Byron, where he assured us he had no fun at all, and Palle who summered in summery Sweden. Also a big welcome back to jumping for Lee Barton and a welcoming drunken man-embrace to Tim, our new work experience student. Congratulations are also due to our wonderful and charming Nat who mans the office during the week for letting Wokka take her for a tandem. A hearty thank you must also go out to jump-pig Jai Campion for the endless stream of slabs he put on the bar to keep us warm in those cold winter nights.



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Keeping the bank balance in check has been difficult for W.A. skydivers with many exciting events taking place at Skydive Express over the last few months.

In September Damo's memorial weekend saw a big turn out to the DZ. Cam spent a day making the windsock so shiny the girls (and handsome Franky) could use it as a mirror. Damo's jump went great with fireworks, streamers and Canadian Clubs all round.

September also saw much 4-way action with Skydive Express flying over professor Tasic for the 4-way inter comp that this year replaced the State Meet. With a huge interest in flattie jumps from the copious new jumpers just off B Licences, we had a slightly different comp this year. The comp was uniquely structured with most teams being scrambles with a numpty, two semi-numptys and an experienced jumper.

The comp went off to a slightly hectic start – I had 32 missed calls on my phone on Friday with people scrambling to get into and out of teams. A few hours later the eight rounds of the competition had been drawn and the keener teams were madly creeping while the others started the traditionally red can. Overall we scraped together six teams. 41 caravan loads, eight rounds and a few big ways later, the weekend rapped up with an epic party around the bonfire on Sunday night. The "Drop Bears" claimed victory, with 16 years in the sport and over

10,000 jumps we felt they deserved it! "Handsome Franky" came in a not so close second and "Wasabiiiiii" came in third. Handsome Franky took home the Lee Irvine Shield for team spirit. The 2-way video competition wrapped up with Red and Wally claiming victory. Peder had a crack at the title a grand total of three times but his lack of talent prevailed and he just missed winning the jump tickets.

Gold - Drop Bears

Ellen Coenra, Ian Washbourne, Tim Castle, Shirley Cowcher with Carl Jefferis on camera

Silver – Handsome Frankies

Amy McDermott, Matt Stitt, Caitlin Campbell, Francis Szabo with Stu Barton on camera

Bronze – Wasabi

Chris Jones, Craig Cook, Darren Forfar, Kristin Mitchell, with Mark Silifant and Darren Vickers on camera.

Big thanks to Cam Rolfe for putting on another canopy course. His wisdom is always appreciated and a day of hop'n'pops was a blast.

The Dave Lock Sports Accuracy competition went off. Russ managed to pick up gold by spotting his way to victory. First out he was the only one with any chance of making it back to the target! The weekend was a little windy so was cut short by a few rounds but this just brought on the beers a little earlier.

Open

1st	Jody Blunden
2nd	Mark Sillifant
3rd	Danielle Blunden

Novice

1st	Russell Wilson
2nd	Craig Cook
3rd	Stuart Hargrave



RIP *Kylie Tanti* aka 'Buffy'

Avenging Angel of the Sisterhood

*"Buffy" is the name I knew you by, a woman of passion and zeal.
I never knew you as a person, but as a living legend on wheels,
It's difficult to explain then, the emptiness I suddenly feel.*

*To hear the girls talk, you were larger than life: loved, admired by all
Beautiful and strong, talented and tough – a true Roller Derby Doll.
I couldn't believe the news today, when I learned that your life was lost in a fall.*

*I could barely read the report, with so many tears in my eye
The article from Malaysia, revealing the details of how you had died,
In a BASE jump from a tower 165 metres high.*

*I read the story from a witness they found
Said you fought like a tiger all the way to the ground
Before embracing the earth, without uttering a sound.*

*Your worldly life ended suddenly, in one irrevocable swipe:
I want to wish you rest and peace but, no: you're not that type
I wish you plenty of ass to kick out there in the after-life.*

*A soul so strong can never fade and I believe it will grow stronger like it should.
So while we're striving, we'll feel that strength, because it's understood,
We're flying with the Spirit of Buffy, Avenging Angel of the Sisterhood.*

By



Kris and Duncan's last jump



A big wedding congratulations to two beautiful drop zone couples Matty and Michelle and Mark and Elouise. Another few big drop zone moments include Russ's 100th jump which saw him in the pool; Russ, Dan, John and Adrian all with fresh Star Crests; Karz and Joanne get their 'A' Licences; Derick's 8,000th and Simon, Daniel & Stuart finish AFF Stage 9s. The sad news for Skydive Express is the loss of DZ favourites, Kris and Duncan, who are back to their new home Canada. They got in some great jumps on their final weekend and will be missed.

TELETHON CHARITY JUMP

By Kelly Waller

Conditions couldn't have been better for Channel 7's, 2010 Telethon Charity jump into Subiaco Oval, Perth. AFL's Shaun McMannus and Dean Kempt were the willing subjects to promote the spirit of giving for people in need, by joining forces with the team at Skydive Express and jumping into the home of The Eagles.

With Channel 7's camera crew there to capture the nervous looks on gear up, the smooth swoops into the oval and to promote the jump on television, the demo was a complete success.

Bells were rung for first jumps into Subiaco Oval, including Duncan and Kris Mitchell who will soon be leaving us for a life in beautiful Canada. The jump will surely be remembered as a highlight of life in Perth.

Congratulations and hats off to everyone for a great day.

Skydive Express Team

LDO

Stan Morris

Captain

John Seman

Tandem Instructors

Don Woodland

Scott (Split) Brown

Camera

Kelly Waller

Tim Castle

Andy Hardy

Starlets

Kristin Mitchell

Duncan Mitchell



HILLMAN FARM

By Andy Vukovich Photos by Clair Jensen

The 2010 Mumbles Team Accuracy Event held at Hillman Farm drop zone recently was once again a huge success. Aside from the many fun loads on the day, this year four teams took advantage of the lovely weather battling it out over three rounds of jumps with an excruciatingly close finish. Competitors and spectators then celebrated in traditional fashion with a huge bonfire party which was enjoyed by all.

The Competition Results were:

The Winners:

Cookies Killers (72 Seconds)
Graham Cook
Chris Edwards
Mark Silifant
Troy Long
Mike Murphy

Second Place:

Sinko (77 Seconds)
Jody Blunden
Ben Hood
Craig Cook
Paul Tait
Dan Hammond

Third Place:

Swoop Dogs (86 Seconds)
Danielle Blunden
Dave Harris
Cameron Lindroth
Rob Paley
Craig Williams

Fourth Place:

Strutz (112 Seconds)
Steve Baker
Linz Wiltshire
Andy Vukovich
James Hedison
Hector Johnson



BYRON BAY

By Stu Gough

As promised here are some photos from the balloon jump we did one early morning.

With all the rain we've had lately it come as no surprise that someone brought a puppy dog, now we have three. It seems that local resident cat and great mouse catcher Toggles has his nose way out of joint over this, but when it comes to food they seem to get along just fine. I think we have enough dogs on the DZ now (hint hint).

On the jumping side of things we're still doing lots of tandems but the local crew have been doing lots of fun loads in between all of that. Matt Longhurst did his 1,000th jump, Craig Donovan did his 4,000th jump, Gabe Wuyts did his 5,000th jump, Emma Pearson got her Packer 'B' and 'B' Certificate, Sam and Jess got their 'A' Certificate and Chad just did his Stage 9 AFF.

Photo by Bulan



Toggles the cat and Pud the dog
Photo by Stacey Edwards



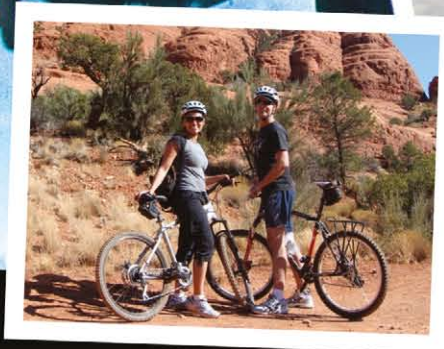
LAVELIN
Odyssey

Manufacturers of Skydiving Equipment since 1987

What's your Odyssey?

Success with my teammates, great times with dear friends, and the knowledge that Sun Path is with me every step of the way. That's MY Odyssey, what is yours?

Eliana Rodriguez
Arizona Airspeed



 Find us on:
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www.sunpath.com

The most fun you will have
with your suit unzipped!



Photo By: Nik Daniel

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As a wingsuiter **You** know what you want from a canopy. You **Want** smooth on heading openings with quicker inflation at slower air speeds. You want **A** canopy that is fun and predictable to fly with a responsive and powerful flare. The **Storm** has quickly become the choice for top wingsuiters around the world.

Time The BED

Compiled by the APF at
ASM deadline time.

CERTIFICATE 'A'

DAVID ABBOTT
JAMES ALLEN
JESSICA BARKER
DAVID BLEAKLEY
MATTHEW BOAG
JAKE BOWLES
RYAN BRAWLS
COREY BRIERLEY
JOSH CAPLE
CHRIS CHANT
ADAM CLARK
JAMES CLARKE
SEAN COLL
TARA COLLINS
PETER CONNOLLY
ROBERT COOPER
KEVIN COOPER
BRYAN CRISPIN
BENJAMIN CROWE
TYLER DE RUITER
CAMERON DODDS
SAM DRYDEN
BRETT DUNSTAN
GRAHAM EVANS
CHRISTOPHER FINN
DALE FRANCIS
DANIEL FREED
SONYA GELMAN
MAX GLUKHORTSEV
PAUL GRESSER
OLLI HAMALAINEN
NIKKI HEALY
ALISTAIR HENTSCHER
MITCHELL HINDMARSH
MATHEW HOBSON
MICHAEL HOLMES
ARRON HOOK
JESSE JENNER
CLINT JOYCE
MAURICIO JUNGES
JOHN LAVIS
DANIELLA LIARIS
CHRISTOPHER LOVE
JAROD MANNING
DANIEL MARSH
MICHAEL MATSON
ERIN MATTHEWS
SEAN MCCALL
CHRIS MCDONALD
MARC MCFARLANE
CAROLINE MEYER
NAOMI MILLAR
DEBBIE MURPHY
JOANNE O'DEA
DYLAN PARKER
JOHN PARRANT
CHRISTOPHER QUAD
MICHAEL RICHARDSON
DEAN SAMPSON
DAVINA SEIDEL
BRYCE SELLICK
ROB SHEEHY
STEVEN SMITH
KYTE SPECHT
GEORGE STAITE
ROCHELLE STAPLES
MATTHEW STERN
NATALIE STOCKTON
JAY STOREY
ANTHONY VALENTINE
NEVILLE VIAPREE
DAVID WALDEN
ADAM WHITEFIELD
MATHEW WHYTE
LENNA WINGATE
COLIN WOLFENDEN
MARK WRIGHT
SCOTT YOUNG

CERTIFICATE 'B'

DANIEL JAMES ATKIN
MARK BALDWIN
SHANE BALFOUR
PHILLIPPA BATES
THOMAS BAUER
OWEN BEATSON
JOHN BEKKER
ROBERT BELL
MATTHEW BLAIKLOCK
GEORGE BOOTLAND
BRENTON BRINE
ROBERT COOPER
CHRISTOPHER COULSON
MADELEINE CROWLEY
CAMERON DAVEY
DAVID DE VILLIERS
DAVE DOBSON
HOLLIE DOYLE
RICHIE DRONOW
CHRISTOPHER GRIME
DEAN GUM
OLLI HAMALAINEN
MATTHEW HART
ROY HOFFMAN
NICOLE HORAK
OWEN HORTON
DAVID IRVING
ROBERT JACKSON
ASHLEY JACKSON
EMMANUEL JACOBS

DANIEL MITCHELL
CHRIS JOHN
JOHN DANIELLA
SEAN DANIEL
KARA SEAN
JAMES MCDERMOTT
NENAD MCGREGOR
BEN MEDIC
ZACH MELMOTH
CLINTON OATES
EMMA O'CONNOR
DAVID PEARSON
NATHAN PINK
ROBERT ROBERTS
OWEN ROBERTS
DANIEL ROGERS
ANGELA RUSSELL
LUKE SCARD
OLIVER SCHULZ
CRAIG SHOEMARK
PETER SLADE
DOUGLAS SLOCOMBE
FLIP STEIN
ROBERT STEVENS
BEN STOKOE
ADAM STRUTHERS
RICHARD TAYLOR
AREN VAN DER SCHATTE
REECE OLIVIER
CHRIS WALLACE
ROD WARREN
ANDREW WHITE
RUSSELL WIGNEY
JOSH WILSON
JAMES WOODS
ALASDAIR WRIGHT
YERLETT

CERTIFICATE 'C'

LEIGH ALDRED
DMITRIY ALKHMIMOV
SHANE BALFOUR
THOMAS BAUER
AVRIL BROOKS
SARAH BROWN
CASEY BUTLER
KELLY CAMERON
JONATHAN CLULOW
LEON DEMUTH
LUKE DENNISS
TIMON DIK
RICHIE DRONOW
GARRY FAVRE
JENNIFER FINALDI
STUART FLEGLER
ADAM FOSSEY
STEPHEN GALINSKY
GLEN GARRAHY
KNUT MAGNUS NORBYE
LUKE HANSBY
PAUL HARVEY
TIMOTHY HAWKEY
NILLE JORGENSEN
DANE KLEINER
SEAN MCCALL
WHITNEY MCDONALD
JAMES MCGREGOR
NENAD MEDIC
ADRIAN MILLS
LACHLAN MUDDLE
VICTORIA MUTTON
JAN NEJUDY
PHONG NGUYEN
BRETT OLIVER
IAN PAYNE
EDUARDO PERNA
CHRISTOPHER POOLE
DAVID READER
DAVID ROSE
STEVEN ROSE
LUKE SCARD
OLIVER SCHULZ
PETER SLADE
MATTHEW STEEN
DAVID STEIN
DAVID STEINER
GLEN STEWART
ANDREW STEWART
BRETT SUMMERS
MARIKA TAUMOLI
MEAGAN THORPE
VLADIMIR TRBIC
JASON UNDERHILL
RUSSELL WILSON
RAYMOND WORRALL
ADELE WORTHINGTON

CERTIFICATE 'D'

LEIGH ALDRED
ADRIAN ALLEN
ASHLEY ARMSTRONG
TANGUY BARSACQ
CORY BETTS
MATTHEW CAILLARD
KELLY CAMERON
ANTHONY CHRISTIAN
MARIOS CHRISTODOULOU
BEN CLARK
ADAM DORKINS
JAY DRYDEN
DAVID ELLEN

STEVEN KALNINS
BEN KHOSHNEVISSAN
RICARDO JOHN
ALLISON LEE
KYLE LIARIS
PAUL MCCALL
LAWRENCE MCDERMOTT
PHILLIP MCGREGOR
LUKE MEDIC
DAVID MELMOTH
LUKE OATES
SCOTT O'CONNOR
LUKE PEARSON
DAVID PINK
LUKE ROBERTS
DAVID ROBERTS
SIMON ROGERS
REGINA RUSSELL
KIERAN SCARD
GEOFFREY SCHULZ
GREG SHOEMARK
RAYMOND SLADE

CERTIFICATE 'E'

NATHAN BECKINGHAM
MATTHIEU CHAILLOT
DUNCAN FRENCH
STEWART GILLIES
HOLLY GODWIN
KATIE HANSEN
HELEN HAYES
JOHN-PAUL JONES
COLIN JONES
SVEN KANIS
PANU KERANEN
PILVI KERANEN
CHRISTER LINDBERG
SHANNON MINNESS
TONY ROKOV
JAMES TAYLOR
ASHLEY WHITE
STEVEN WILLIAMSON
BEN GREG
ARNON WITCHALLS
ZMORA

CERTIFICATE 'F'

KYLIE DANIEL
SHAUN HAGAN
NAOMI ADAM
ADRIAN ALLEN
TRENT BARNES
MATTHEW BLAIKLOCK
RICHIE DRONOW
DAVID ELLEN
RICK FRANK
DUNCAN FRENCH
BEN FUTTERLEIB
PAUL HARVEY
PETER HORSFALL
KYLE JOHNSON
CHRIS KENNEDY
DANE KLEINER
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SHANNON NINNESS
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GREG WILSON
RUSSELL WILSON
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KEVEN WALTERS

TUTOR FREEFLY

SHEA CONVERY
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TUTOR RW

SANDY GLENDAY
DUNCAN MCLEOD
ARNON ZMORA

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JULIAN BRUNT
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PANU KERANEN
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SERGIO NARDONI
ARNON ZMORA

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SEAN WALSH
BRYAN YOUNG

TANDEM SUB-ENDORSEMENT - STRONG

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NATHAN BECKINGHAM
MASON CORBY
SCOTT HISCOE
PANU KERANEN
SERGIO NARDONI
ARNON ZMORA

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JOAKIM HALLIN

PANU KERANEN
CHRISTER LINDBERG
CLIVE MEAKINS
PAUL TURNER
KEVIN WALL

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MARCUS CURRY
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TIMON EHRET
SAM EYLES
RICHARD FENTON
FUNKY HANNAN
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LUKE HART
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DAVID STEHBENS
BERNIE STEVERMUEER
MICHAEL URQUHART
GREG WEATHERSTONE



adz directory

Source: APF Database as at deadline time.

AIRCRAFT LEGEND

Aircraft Type	Max. Skydivers
Cessna 180	4 place
Cessna 185	4 place
Cessna 182	5 place
Cessna 206	6 place
Islander	10 place
Islander	20 place
Piper Navajo	10 place
Beaver	8 place, turbine
Cessna Caravan	16 place, turbine
Cresco	10 place, turbine
XL	17 place, turbine
Skyvan	20 place, turbine
Helio Courier Helicopter	

NORTHERN TERRITORY

DARWIN PARACHUTE CLUB INC.

PO BOX 3114, DARWIN NT 0801
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TERRY KING
 Club Ph 0412 442 745
 DZ Ph 08 8976 0036
 email: skydive_territory@yahoo.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: BATCHELOR AIRFIELD
 web: www.skydiveterritory.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182 and 206

TOP END TANDEMS

PO BOX 692, SANDERSON NT 0813
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ASHLEY SMITH
 Club Ph 0417 190 140
 email: topendtandems@bigpond.com
 Drop Zone Location: DARWIN - Lee Point Beach
 web: www.topendtandems.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

QUEENSLAND - NORTH

A AYRSPTS INCORPORATED

35 ROBERTS ST, HERMIT PARK QLD 4812
 Non Training Operation
 Club Ph 0407 601 387
 email info@ayrsports.org.au
 Drop Zone Location: The Ayr Aerodrome
 Web: www.ayrsports.org.au

FAR NORTH FREEFALL INC.

PO BOX 1058, TULLY QLD 4854
 Non Training Operation
 Club Ph 0419 024 413 (Gavin)
 email Brian: bdore77@hotmail.com
 Drop Zone Location: TULLY AERODROME
 Aircraft: Cessna 182 and Cresco.

MACKAY PARACHUTE CENTRE

9 ELAMANG ST, MACKAY QLD 4740
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RAY MAKIN
 Club Ph 07 4957 6439, DZ Ph 0408 703 554
 email: ray@skydivemackay.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: MARIAN AIRFIELD
 Web: www.skydivemackay.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

PAUL'S PARACHUTING

PO BOX 90N, CAIRNS QLD 4870
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GLENN BOLTON
 Club Ph 07 4051 8855, DZ Ph 0418 770 250
 email: skydivethereefcairns@australiaskydive.com
 Drop Zone Location: EDMONTON - CAIRNS & MISSION BEACH
 web: www.australiaskydive.com.au
 Aircraft: 2 X Cessna CaravanS

SKYDIVE AIRLIE BEACH

PO BOX 1152, AIRLIE BEACH QLD 4802
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JONNY GOSS
 Club Ph 0418 762315
 DZ Ph 07 4946 9115
 email: info@skydiveairliebeach.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: WHITSUNDAY AIRPORT SHUTE HARBOUR
 Web: www.skydiveairliebeach.com.au
 Aircraft: Two Cessna 182s & GA8 Airvan

SKYDIVE CAIRNS

PO BOX 105, NORTH CAIRNS QLD 4870
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: STEPHEN LEWIS
 Club Ph 07 4031 5499
 DZ Ph 07 4068 3801
 email: reservations@skydivecairns.com.au
 DROP ZONE LOCATION: EDMONTON, MISSION BEACH & TULLY
 web: www.skydivecairns.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cresco 750, Cessna Caravan & Cessna 182

SKYDIVE THE WHITSUNDAYS

PO BOX 291, CANNONVALE QLD 4802
 Non Training Operation
 Club Ph 07 4940 7260
 email: nqpc@mackay.net.au

Drop Zone Location: PROSERPINE/SHUTE HARBOUR
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE TOWNSVILLE

PO BOX 1786, TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ALAN MOSS
 Club Ph 07 47214721
 DZ Ph 0412 889 154
 email: info@skydivetownsville.com
 Drop Zone Location: AYR AIRPORT & THE STRAND, TOWNSVILLE
 Web: www.skydivetownsville.com
 Aircraft: C-182

TANDEM CAIRNS

PO BOX 753, BUNGALOW QLD 4870
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ADAM DAVIES
 Club Ph 1800 805 432
 DZ Ph 07 4061 7897
 email: admin@tandemcairns.com.au
 DROP ZONE LOCATION: MUNDOO AERODROME INNISFAIL
 web: www.tandemcairns.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 185

QUEENSLAND - SOUTH

AUSTRALIAN PARESUECUE TEAM

PO BOX 86, SOUTHPORT, QLD 4215
 Non Training
 Club Ph 0416 611 499
 email: paulweir56@yahoo.com.au
 Web: www.ipsgonline.com

BRISBANE SKYDIVING CENTRE

PO BOX 29, IPSWICH QLD 4305
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: BRIAN SCOFFELL
 Club Ph 07 3333 2077
 DZ Ph 0438 734 845
 email: admin@BrisbaneSkydive.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: WILLOW BANK
 web: www.brisbaneskydive.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

GOLD COAST SKYDIVE PTY LTD

PO BOX 332, COOLANGATTA QLD 4225
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ARCHIE JAMIESON
 Club Ph 07 5599 1920
 email: info@goldcoastskydive.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: KIRRA BEACH AND LEN PEAK OVAL
 web: www.goldcoastskydive.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

QUEENSLAND ADRENALIN SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 166, GEEBUNG QLD 4034
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: Jim Czerwinski
 Club Ph 07 3314 3664
 DZ Ph 0417 079 460
 email: tandemjump@optusnet.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: WOODRIM BEACH BRIBIE ISLAND
 Web: http://www.adrenalskydivers.com.au
 Aircraft: C182 & C-206

RAMBLERS PARACHUTE CENTRE

PO BOX 136, TOOGOOLOOAH QLD 4313
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DAVID MCEVOY
 Club Ph 07 5423 1159
 email: skydive@ramblers.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: TOOGOOLOOAH and COOLUM BEACH
 web: www.ramblers.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna Caravan and Cessna 182

REDCLIFFE CITY SKYDIVING

PO BOX 105, REDCLIFFE QLD 4020
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JOHN COOK
 Club Ph 07 3283 8911
 email: angela@skydiveredcliffe.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: SUTTONS BEACH (REDCLIFFE)
 web: www.skydiveredcliffe.com.au/
 Aircraft: C182 & PA31 Navajo

RIPCORD SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 266, CANNON HILL QLD 4170
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JOHN FRISWELL
 Club Ph 07 5466 5521
 email: ripcord@ripcord-skydivers.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: GATTON
 web: www.ripcord-skydivers.com.au/
 Aircraft: C-182 and C-206

RIPCORD SKYDIVERS ASSOCIATION

2 Curtain Road, Glenmore Grove Gatton QLD 4343
 Non Training Operation
 Club Ph 07 5466 5630
 email: ripcordskydiversinc@hotmail.com
 Drop Zone Location: GATTON
 web: www.ripcord-skydivers.com.au/
 Aircraft: C-206 & C-182

SKYDIVE CABOOLTURE

PO BOX 268, GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS QLD 4518
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: IAN MCGREGOR
 Club Ph 07 5496 9562
 DZ Ph 0414 704 415
 email: imc@big.net.au

Drop Zone Location: CABOOLTURE AIRFIELD
 web: www.skydivcaboolture.com
 Aircraft: Cessna 182 Cessna 206

SKYDIVE HERVEY BAY

c/o 677 TOWER ROAD, BANKSTOWN AERODROME, NSW 2200
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RAY CURRY
 Club Ph 0488 707 402
 Club Fax 02 9791 9101
 Email: curry185@yahoo.com
 Drop Zone Location: HERVEY BAY AIRPORT
 Web: http://www.sydneydivers.com.au
 Aircraft: Cessna 185

SKYDIVE RAINBOW BEACH

PO BOX 7, RAINBOW BEACH QLD 4581
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ROB CARBERRY
 Club Ph 0418 218 358
 email: info@skydiverainbowbeach.com
 Drop Zone Location: RAINBOW BEACH
 web: www.skydiverainbowbeach.com/
 Aircraft: C-182

SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND SKYDIVERS INC

PO BOX 928, REDCLIFFE QLD 4020
 Non Training
 Club Ph 0429 020 865
 email: seqsclub@gmail.com
 Web: www.seqsclub.com.au

SUNSHINE COAST SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 1079, CALOUNDRA QLD 4551
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TIBOR GLESK
 Club Ph 07 5437 0211
 email: info@jumpscs.com
 Drop Zone Location: CALOUNDRA and VARIOUS BEACHES
 web: www.jumpscs.com/
 Aircraft: Cessna Caravan, C182 & C206

TOOGOOLOOAH SKYDIVERS CLUB INC.

18 DESERT FALLS CRES, PARKWOOD QLD 4214
 Non Training Operation
 Club Ph 0418 154 119
 email: tsqld@gmail.com
 Drop Zone Location: TOOGOOLOOAH
 Aircraft: Cessna Caravan

NEW SOUTH WALES

ADRENALIN SKYDIVE

4 RADFORD STREET, HEDDON GRETA NSW 2321
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: BILL TUDDENHAM
 Club Ph 02 49364955
 DZ Ph 0419 297 014
 email: skydive@pacific.net.au
 Drop Zone Location: LUSKINTYRE AIRFIELD, HEXHAM AIRFIELD
 web: www.askydiver.com
 Aircraft: Cessna 182, 206

COASTAL SKYDIVERS

15 WEISMANTLE STREET, WAUCHOPE NSW 2446
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TONY MAURER
 Club & DZ Ph 0428 471 227
 email: jumpportmac@bigpond.com
 Drop Zone Location: PORT MACQUARIE AIRPORT NSW
 web: www.coastalskydivers.com/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

COFFS CITY SKYDIVERS

PO BOX J208, COFFS HARBOUR JETTY NSW 2450
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: LAWRENCE HILL
 Club & DZ Ph 02 6651 1167
 email: jump@coffsskydivers.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: COFFS HARBOUR AIRPORT & WEST MARSHALLS FIELD
 web: www.coffsskydivers.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 182

FUNNY FARM SKYDIVING

PO Box 843, BYRON BAY NSW 2481
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ROGER MULCKEY
 Club Ph 0402 008 924
 DZ Ph 1800 302 005
 email: info@goskydive.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: KINGSFORD SMITH PARK - BALLINA
 Web: www.goskydive.com.au
 Aircraft: C-182 (Super)

JUST JUMP SKYDIVE

PO BOX 4009, EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DEE WATKINS
 Club Ph 02 4322 9884
 email: bookings@justjumpskydive.com.au
 Drop Zone Location: HOPE ESTATE, CESSNOCK & WHITTINGHAM AIRFIELD, SINGLETON
 web: www.justjumpskydive.com.au/
 Aircraft: Cessna 206 & XL-750

NEWCASTLE SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB

PO BOX 116 BRANXTON, NSW 2335
 CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TONY MAURER

*Some members have commented that a few of these Club records are not accurate. We can only print what we're told. Please contact Kim Hardwick at the APF if you find any inaccuracies.

Club & DZ Ph 02 4938 1040
email: info@skydivenewcastle.com
Drop Zone Location: MOORES LANE ELDERSLIE & WITTINGHAM AIRFIELD, SINGLETON
web: www.skydivenewcastle.com/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

SIMPLY SKYDIVE - PENRITH LAKES SKYDIVING CENTRE

12 Perth Street, Oxley Park, Sydney NSW 2760
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DONOVAN CASEY
Club Ph 02 9223 8444
DZ Ph 0403 088 697
email: info@simplyskydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: PENRITH LAKES, West White Water Stadium
web: www.simplyskydive.com.au/
Aircraft: Piper Navajo, C-207, C-210, HELIO COURIER

SKYDIVE BYRON BAY

PO BOX 1615, BYRON BAY NSW 2481
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: STEPHEN EDWARDS
Club & DZ Ph 02 6684 1323
email: info@australianskydive.com
Drop Zone Location: TYAGARAH AIRFIELD
web: www.australianskydive.com
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan

SKYDIVE COFFS HARBOUR

PO Box 351, COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MARK BRODY
Club Ph 0403 871 451
DZ Ph 0433 254 438
email: skydivcoffsharbour@australianskydive.com
Drop Zone Location: PARK BEACH & ENGLANDS PARK OVAL & COFFS HARBOUR AIRPORT
Web: www.skydivcoffs.com
Aircraft: C-182

SKYDIVE MAITLAND PTY LTD

PO BOX 202, RUTHERFORD NSW 2320
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JASON CLARKE
Club Ph 0425 200 185
DZ Ph 02 4930 7989
email: info@skydivemaitland.com.au
Drop Zone Location: RUTHERFORD AIRPORT
web: www.skydivemaitland.com.au/
Aircraft: Two C-182's

SKYDIVE NOWRA

PO BOX A32, NOWRA NAVAL PO NSW 2540
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RALF JAEGER
Club Ph 0419 446 904
DZ Ph 02 4424 2138 (weekends)
email: jaeger@shoalhaven.net.au
Drop Zone Location: NOWRA AIRFIELD
web: http://www.shoal.net.au/~skydivenowra/
Aircraft: Cessna 185, 182

SKYDIVE OZ

PO BOX 925, MORUYA NSW 2537
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PAUL SMITH
Club Ph 0438 185 180
email: fun@skydiveoz.com.au
Drop Zone Location: MORUYA & TRANGIE AIRFIELD
web: www.skydiveoz.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 180 and Cessna 185

SKYDIVE TEMORA

PO BOX 2, TEMORA NSW 2666
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GREG COX
Club Ph 02 6978 0137
DZ Ph 0417 695 759
email: sales@skydivetemora.com.au
Drop Zone Location: TEMORA AIRPORT
web: www.skydivetemora.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE THE BEACH

PO BOX 5361, WOLLONGONG NSW 2500
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GLENN HOGAN
Club Ph 02 4225 8444
DZ Ph 1300 663 634
email: info@skydivethebeach.com
Drop Zone Location: STUART PARK WOLLONGONG
web: www.skydivethebeach.com/
Aircraft: Navajo, Cessnas 206 & 182 and Caravan 208

SKYDIVING NSW DROP ZONE

PO BOX 764, TAREE NSW 2430
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MARK BRODY
Club & DZ Ph 0418 730 741
email: skydiving@westnet.com.au
Drop Zone Location: TAREE AIRPORT
Aircraft: C182

SYDNEY PARACHUTE & SKYDIVING CENTRE

PO BOX 4274 Milperra Bc 1891
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GRAHAME HILL
Club Ph 1800 805 997
DZ Ph 02 97919155
email: admin@sydneyneyskydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: PICTON
web: www.sydneyneyskydivers.com.au/
Aircraft: Skyvan, 750 XL & Beaver

SYDNEY SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 4274 Milperra Bc 1891
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PHIL ONIS
Club Ph 02 9791 9155
DZ Ph 02 4630 9265
email: admin@sydneyneyskydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: PICTON
web: www.sydneyneyskydivers.com.au/
Aircraft: Skyvan, Beaver & 750XL

TANDEM SKYDIVING

37 SEGENHOE ST, ARNCLIFFE NSW 2205
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DICK PETTERS
Club Ph 02 9597 5918
DZ Ph 0418 275 200

email: rpetters@ozemail.com.au
DROP ZONE LOCATION: CAMBERRA
Aircraft: Cessna 180

WESTERN DISTRICTS PARACHUTE CLUB

PO BOX 172 DUBBO NSW 2830
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MIKE CARRE
Club Ph 02 6884 8266
DZ Ph 02 6852 3845
email: lyndon.p@optusnet.com.au
Drop Zone Location: FORBES AIRPORT
web: www.wdpc.info/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

AERIAL SKYDIVING PTY LIMITED

8 FRASER PL, YARRALUMLA ACT 2600
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GRAEME WINDSOR
Club Ph 02 6285 1453
DZ Ph 0418 487 953
email: aerialskydiving@ozemail.com.au
Drop Zone Location: CANBERRA DEAKIN MINT OVAL, ACT
Web: www.jump-act.com/
Aircraft: Cessna 206

SKYDIVE CANBERRA

4 BADGER PL, OXLEY ACT 2903
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: TERRY RIDDLE
Club Ph 02 6296 1911 (BH)
DZ Ph 0458 736 920
email: neilandsharan@fergiefamily.com
Drop Zone Location: CANBERRA - MINT OVAL, DEAKIN
web: www.skydivcanberra.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

VICTORIA

AERIAL SKYDIVES

PO BOX 266, CHURCHILL VIC 3842
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: JANINE HAYES
Club Ph 0408 070 991
email: janine@aerialskydives.com
Drop Zone Location: LATROBE REGIONAL AIRPORT, TRARALGON
web: www.aerialskydives.com/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

AUSTRALIAN SKYDIVE

PO BOX 839, TORQUAY VIC 3228
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: RALPH HAMILTON-PRESGRAVE
Club Ph 1800 557 101
DZ Ph 0434 174 443
email: info@australianskydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: BRIDGEWATER ON LODDON & TIGER MOTH WORLD TORQUAY
web: www.australianskydive.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 182 & 206

COMMANDO SKYDIVERS INCORPORATED

PO BOX 2066, ROWVILLE VIC 3178
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PETER KNIGHTS
Club Ph 1300 555 956
DZ Ph 03 5998 3702
email: jump@commandoskydivers.com.au
Drop Zone Location: 3260 STH GIPPSLAND HWY, TOORADIN
web: www.commandoskydivers.com.au/
Aircraft: 2 x Cessna 206

FREEFALL UNITED INC

14 ITKESTON ST, HERNE HILL, VIC 3042
Non Training Operation
Club Ph 03 5221 8606
email: geoffg@oamps.com.au
Drop Zone Location: various
web: http://freefall.alphalink.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

MELBOURNE SKYDIVE CENTRE

285 AUBURN ROAD, HAWTHORN VIC 3122
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PAUL MURPHY
Club Ph 1300 734 471
DZ Ph 03 9739 0333
email: sales@melbourneskydivecentre.com.au
Drop Zone Location: Lilydale Airport
Web: www.melbourneskydivecentre.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

RELWORKERS INCORPORATED

L10/50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne VIC 3000
Non Training Operation
Drop Zone Location: No fixed DZ
web: www.relworkers.org/

SKYDIVE NAGAMBIE

PO BOX 311, NAGAMBIE VIC 3608
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DON CROSS
Club Ph 03 5794 1466
DZ Ph 03 5794 2626
email: jump@skydivenagambie.com
Drop Zone Location: NAGAMBIE & PHILLIP ISLAND
web: www.skydivenagambie.com/
Aircraft: XL 750 & Cessna 185

SKYDIVE VICTORIA

PO BOX 16, COROWA NSW 2646
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: FRANK SMITH
DZ Ph 02 6033 2435
email: enquiries@skydivevictoria.com.au
Drop Zone Location: COROWA
web: www.skydivevictoria.com.au/
Aircraft: VARIOUS

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ADELAIDE TANDEM SKYDIVING

678 North East Road Holden Hill SA 5088
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ALLAN GRAY
Club Ph 08 8261 4161

email: info@adelaideskydiving.com.au
Drop Zone Location: Port Wakefield Road Lower Light
web: www.adelaideskydiving.com.au/
Aircraft: C-182

ADVENTURE AIR SKYDIVING PTY LTD

PO BOX 571, GOODWOOD SA 5034
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: SCOTT GRIST
Club Ph 08 8322 7788
email: info@skydivegoolwa.com.au
Drop Zone Location: GOOLWA AIRFIELD, AIRPORT RD, CURRENCY CREEK
web: www.skydivegoolwa.com.au
Aircraft: C-182

SA SKYDIVING

89E GOODWOOD RD, GOODWOOD SA 5034
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: GREG SMITH
Club Ph 08 8272 7888
DZ Ph 08 8531 1516
email: greg@saskydiving.com.au
Drop Zone Location: LANGHORNE CREEK AIRFIELD, SKELDON ROAD
web: www.skydiving.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna 206 & 182

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB INC

PO BOX 884, NORTH ADELAIDE SA 5006
Non Training Operation
Club 0422 469 608
email: skydive@saspc.asn.au
Drop Zone Location: LOWER LIGHT, LANGHORNE CREEK, GOOLWA
web: www.saspc.asn.au/

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HILLMAN FARM SKYDIVERS INC.

125 RIVERTON DRIVE WEST, ROSSMOYNE WA 6148
Non Training Operation
Club Ph 0415 714 585
DZ Ph 08 9736 1386
email: iwlthshire@iinet.net.au
Drop Zone Location: HILLMAN FARM
Aircraft: Cessna 182

KAMBALDA SKYSPO RTS

PO BOX 79, KAMBALDA WEST WA 6444
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: MICK MURTAGH
Club Ph 08 9027 1043
DZ Ph 0419 853 193
email: murtagh@bigpond.net.au
Drop Zone Location: KAMBALDA WEST AIRSTRIP
Aircraft: C-182

PETE'S PARACHUTING (NW) Pty Ltd

PO BOX 810, JURIE BAY WA 6516
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PETE LONNON
Club Ph 08 9652 1350
email: jumpnow@bigpond.net.au
Drop Zone Location: JURIE BAY & WICKHAM AIRSTRIP
web: and www.skydivejurienbay.com/
Aircraft: Cessna 182

SKYDIVE ADVENTURE

116 BLAIR ST, BUNBURY WA 6230
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: PETER SWANN
Club Ph 08 9791 7311
DZ Ph 0417 965 763
email: swanny@gateway.net.au
Drop Zone Location: HILLMAN FARM, DARKAN
web: www.skydiveadventure.com.au/
Aircraft: C-182

SKYDIVE EXPRESS

PO BOX 151, LEEDERVILLE WA 6903
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: DON WOODLAND
Club Ph 08 9444 4199
DZ Ph 08 9641 2905
email: jump@skydive.com.au
Drop Zone Location: YORK
web: www.skydive.com.au/
Aircraft: Cessna Caravan and Cessna 182

SOUTHERN SKYDIVERS

PO BOX 1478, BUSSELTON WA 6280
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: AUSSIE POWER
Club Ph 08 9753 1661
DZ Phone 0439 979 897
email: annkerrawn@gmail.com
Drop Zone Location: BUSSELTON REGIONAL AIRPORT
WEB: www.southernskydivers.com.au
Aircraft: BN2A Islander, Cessna 182

SPORTING SKYDIVERS CLUB OF WA

10 VALENCIA GROVE, MOUNT NASURA WA 6112
Non training Operation
Club Ph 08 9399 7333
email: cblenco@bigpond.net.au
Drop Zone Location: VARIOUS

WEST AUSTRALIAN SKYDIVING ACADEMY

PO BOX 439, NORTHBRIDGE WA 6865
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: ROBIN O'NEILL
Club Ph 08 9227 6066
email: wasac@iinet.net.au
Drop Zone Location: PINJARRA
web: www.waskydiving.com.au/
Aircraft: 2 X Cessna 182s, PA 31-30 Navajo

TASMANIA

SKYDIVE TASMANIA

20 MCVILLY DRIVE, HOBART TAS 7000
CHIEF INSTRUCTOR: KEN HIGGINS
Club 0400 500 123
email: info@skydivetasmania.com.au
Drop Zone Location: SWANSEA & HOBART REGATTA GROUNDS
Aircraft: C-182
Web: www.skydivetasmania.com.au

