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Newsletter 5
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Next due 01JAN07

Drop Zone Curtin Rd
Glenore Grove
Gatton Ph(07)54665521

Calender;

- NOV 01 Erica's birthday (drinks 03.11.06)
- NOV 04 Ripcord night jump.
- NOV 04-05 South QLD State champs Caboolture
- NOV 17-19 Swoop comp & display Coolum
- NOV 25-26 South QLD state champs Toogoolawah
- NOV 27-30 Ramblers Learning Curve
- DEC 03 Ripcord photo and speed star competition closes.
- DEC 09 Ripcord Christmas party
- DEC 26-30 Picton Boogie



Player profile;

Name: Lawrence Richard Jones L J
DOB: 26.08.85 Born: Newcastle NSW
Occupation: Full time bum, part time barman/waiter. Temporally disabled arborist



Number of Jumps: 150
Favourite Saying: Say no to hook turns
Best advice received: Say no to hook turns.
Words of wisdom; Say no to hook turns.
Last jump: 30.04.06 Say no to hook turns.
Next jump: Hopefully April 07, I will be back.
Best friend: Dad (guess who wrote this).
People you would like to invite to dinner (dead or alive): My mate Chris the chef_ he's cooking, Hitler_ How would he be portrayed if he was victorious, What was he like at my age?
 Paris Hilton_Say no more.
 John G_ my friend and mentor.
Most memorable jump: say no to hook turns.
Favourite Jump: the first 149 were all excellent all an important part of my life. Jump number 150 will only make me a better Skydiver.
Best thing about a DZ: The friends, the parties, the adrenalin, the smile on first time jumpers, the diversity of jumpers, the wealth of knowledge.

New Jump Record

641 jumps in 24 hour

From David Lynch

If you thought jumping from a perfectly serviceable airplane just once gives you the jitters, consider how Jay Stokes spent his Saturday. The Yuma Ariz skydiving instructor got in 640 (641 if you count the night jump where he missed the DZ) in 24 hours. That's one jump every two minutes and 14 seconds (counting the extra one) and is even more remarkable considering Stokes tore a leg muscle about a third of the way through the marathon, which took place at Greensburg municipal airport in Indiana USA, where he teaches in the summer. The old record of 534, which he set in California in 2003. About 130 volunteers took part in the effort, which involved a precisely timed sequence. After leaving the plane (a PAC -750) at 2,100 feet, Stokes would spiral to the ground in about 40 seconds. Volunteers would meet him as his feet touched the ground to unclip the deployed chute and strap him into a fresh one. There was one volunteer whose only job was to ensure a step was properly placed to allow him to jump quickly into the plane, which dove for the ground as soon as he'd exited. Volunteers on the plane strapped Stokes in as the power came on. His longest turnaround was about 10 minutes after he misjudged the exit point and landed in a field adjacent the airport. He hitched a ride back to the field with a passerby as anxious volunteers began widening their search for him.

Hi to everyone back at Ripcord
I've been travelling through
England,Greece,France,Italy and now in Spain.
Having a ball, seen heaps, done heaps and soon
jumping heaps at "Skydive Empuriabrava"
Blue Skies
Mel

Don't let your parachute take your body
somewhere your brain hasn't been beforehand.

Proper prior preparation
prevent piss poor performance,
prevents becoming a paramedic patient,
prevents procrastination (perhaps),
prevents pregnancy,
prolongs parachutist being put out to pasture,
propagates proper prone position,
promises prominent performance,
promotes perfection,
perfect practice makes perfect,
produces a productive prologue,
piss off john-paul,
produce purposeful performance,
prioritize problems,
becomes a profitable proposition,
probable prizewinning progress,
prevents probing proctology procedures,
provides proper personal protection,
pacifies paragliding panic,
penalise paparazzi parasites,
promotes passenger patience,



Mel

Skydiving Retention

How do we get First Time skydivers to come back again and again? This is a major issue facing Australian Parachuting Federation, all Drop Zone proprietors and you and I the fun jumpers. Friz has had nearly ten thousand students and even more tandems, where are they now? Someone who has enjoyed their first jump enough to come back again needs to have an encouraging path presented to them that makes it easy to go further.

Few First Timers say "I couldn't do that again". Many First Timers say "I've been there done that", happy to call themselves a skydiver and move on to the next challenge. Many First Timers say "I would love to do that again", but don't. Why?

Time and money are major contributors to the skydiving retention problem. The first one hundred jumps plus gear may cost ten thousand dollars (and a life time of memories), about the same cost as a second hand car (which is forgotten about soon after retiring it). We all work hard for the few surplus dollars available for skydiving, what makes our financial budgeting different to all First Timers? Maybe the answers in the car park, the type of vehicles parked there (sorry Marlease, Brenda & Walter).

Time is my biggest problem balancing family, work, home, social and health. Which may explain the few number of family men and nil mothers jumping at Ripcord.

First Timers pay ten times per jump what I pay for a Hop and Pop, they subsidise my jumping. If I want to maintain jump prices, it is important to encourage student skydiver to progress. I can not effect the cost of oil in the Middle East, nor assist aircraft maintenance. I'm too inexperienced to assist with instructing and too lazy to assist with the club house painting. How can I help? How can I encourage student skydivers to fill the ranks of our competitors, instructors, officials and administrators?

The answer is many and complex, also obviously simple.

Simply welcoming new comers and their family and friends, not just the pretty ones. Especially the ones with poor English skills. Talk to them, let them enjoy the social benefits of our DZ, first impressions are paramount (maybe some members will have to be hidden for a while). Do what we do best, have fun!

Simply keeping the DZ clean and tidy. Beer cans all over the car park Sunday morning may give us away as a drinking club with a skydiving problem.

Simply inviting First Timers to stay on and party Saturday night, to me the social is as important as the jumping.

Simply sending First Timers an Email or Newsletter.



The finnish product. by Black Brenda
I would like to present my son Joona (Yawna) Orion. Born 12/10/06 12.39pm after a three hour journey down the tunnel of life weighed 3530grams. His mum needed a minor operation straight after his birth, so he and i spent the first 3 hours of his life getting to know each other. I hope pretending the knuckle on my little finger is a nipple doesn't give him a complex later in life or that all mum's with non milk producing nipples have a course moustache. Actually, i don't care about his orientation as long as he remains healthy and retains an open mind and accepts himself. See ya early December



Happy 21st Bear



Ripcord Skydive Inc.



Christmas Party

9th December 2006



Come along and enjoy
the good company,
great music,
food and most
importantly great

laughs as the
Christmas Awards
are given out!

Awards will also be
presented for the
Photo
and Speed Star
Competitions

Ripcord Skydive Inc.

Photo Competition

Topic: 2006 Photos related to skydiving or the Ripcord Skydive Club

Competition Closes: 2nd December 2006
(Photos must be given to Erica in a sealed envelope by this date)

Prize: Winners gets long-term fame as the first winner on the Photo Competition Plaque and a Carton on the bar!

Photos will be anonymous and judged by a panel.

Winners will be announced at the Christmas Party 9th December 2006!

Speed Star Competition!

Topic: The fastest four way speed star jump validated by dzso by video footage. Must have at least 1 novice on the team.

Competition Closes: 2nd December 2006
(Videos must be given to Fris/dzso by this date)

Prize: Winning Team will get a free hop + pop for a swoop and chug competition and long-term fame as the first winning Team on the Speed Star Plaque! The winner of the Swoop and Chug will get their name first on the Plaque and a carton on the bar!

Videos will be judged / timed by a Fris/dzso.
Winners will be announced at the Christmas Party 9th December 2006!

Congratulation to Pascal for the "A" license, Billy's "B", to Brad and Brett for 100, to Erica for 300, to Hayden for 500, Ryan for 900 and to the numerous other achievers Many thanks to the carpenter and painters for their effort around the DZ. Bear thanks everyone for her surprise 21st, especially "The Grunge"(Voluntary induction into the 100 club), Ripcord thanks her parents for "the feed". Congratulation to Brian and Pauliina for the worlds greatest miracle. Good luck to Mel on her adventures. Thanks to all that contributed to this edition of the newsletter, next edition due 1st of January. Please have any articles, gossip (true or false), photos or jokes in by 28th December.



Ripcord Skydivers Inc.

Written by Cathy (Trouble) Ellis and Hayden Galvin

Its been a big month for Ripcord club members with plenty of jumping during the day and several birthdays at night to back it up! First happy birthday to Marlease (Marly) Powers, James (Ferret) MacFarlane and Erica (Car) Rochester! Then a big Happy 21st to El Presidente Lawrence (LJ) Jones and Sarah (Bear) Apalais - so who said a Bear couldn't fly a demo alone? Sorry Bear but we needed time to set up your surprise party! Bear's solo demo was followed by a special sunset load, with Hayden (500th), Car (300th), Brad (Wookie) Ward (100th) and Brett (Op1 Kenobi) ?? (100th) totalling 1000 jumps between them. Gunge Master Scott Piper (with additional help from Bear's Parents and the rest of the motley crew) did a fine job welcoming Wookie, Op1 Kenobi and Bear to the family!

The Black Tie BBQ was a success and sorry Col, but I still reckon the roof is a good spot to pitch a tent!

Congrats to Ryan (Spready) Spreadbough on his 900th jump – was it as good for you as it was for your passenger (and thanks for your first chop carton!)? Billy Dury has finally completed his B Rels and his ??100th?? (Did you Billy? We will find out!)

A big Hi to Melissa (Mel) Berry who has been travelling through Greece, Italy and France for the last few weeks and is now going to Spain with her rig and jumping gear! We expect details for the next newsletter! Welcome back to and Irish Brian - didn't you like the weather back home? Holly Godwin also returns, making the Godwin family complete once again! If anyone has seen JOE - tell him he left his jocks here!

The Club House is looking smick with a face lift – well done to all the painters, including head painter and new jumper Aaron (Stonie) Stone!

The Speed Star Comp has been going great with plenty of groups participating - remember free Swoop and Chug comp for the winning group followed by a carton for the winner!

Photo competition and Speed Star entries need to be in by the 3rd December as winners are announced at the Christmas party on the 9th December!



1.1 - Photo by Trouble



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