

# LET RIP



RIPCARD SKYDIVERS ASSOC.

## Calender

Jan 17 AGM

Jan 24 Oz day Party

Feb 21 Fund Raising Meeting

Feb 14 canopy piloting nationals

Mar 7 Accuracy nationals

## Player Profile

Name? Cathy Ellis (AKA Trouble!)  
DOB? 21/04/70

Jump number? 3 (Yep almost a whoof!)  
Favourite jump? Was a gift by the club...  
Scariest Moment? I don't think I've had it yet, I've made up for it with some pretty f#\*ked up ones! haha  
Word of advice for others? Treat others as you expect to be treated...but be warned if you want to be spanked, using this method might get you arrested!!  
When and Why the first jump? 2003 - I was dared! Then stopped to fly....since then other stuff has happened...  
Who would you like to invite to dinner? Hang-on! Does that mean I have to cook?  
Recommended reading? The list is way too long... the most recent one was 'The Horse Whisperer' (the real one not the bullshit love story! Love stories suck!)  
Who inspires you? Everyone in different ways all the time!  
Occupation? I'm an Acting Principle Engineer (wetlands)... and I don't even drive a train!  
Do you see yourself as a jump instructor, camera flyer, Tandem master.....etc ? At the moment I'm club secretary and not jumping. When I do start jumping again - camera flyer.  
Life goals? To try and do the right thing by others while enjoying myself to the fullest! And It sometimes amazes me how something that sounds so simple can be so bloody difficult!  
Travel goals? To travel as much as possible! I would like to check out Europe, the US, Africa, Galapagos Islands and more. I'd like to have a go in a few wind tunnels and to work with orang-utans or other wildlife is also appealing...  
Favourite travel destination? Hard Question! Anywhere new, I love an adventure!  
Ideal home location? Near the water, with space  
Favourite food, drink, vegie out activity? Vegy something...  
Guava Cruisers, anything with mates.



## Annual General Meeting Agenda 17<sup>th</sup> January 2009

**Item 1: Introduction to the club, committee members and meetings**

**Item 2: Actions from last meeting**

**Item 3: Vote for Executive Committee and SEQ Parachute Federation Representatives.**

**Positions being nominated for include:**

- President (Currently LJ)
- Vice President (Currently John-Paul)
- Treasurer (Currently Billy)
- Secretary (Currently Cathy/ Trouble)
- 2 x SEQ Parachute Federation Representatives

Information on the responsibilities associated with these positions will be provided on the night or can be requested from Cathy (0422 596 928 or [wildbuna@hotmail.com](mailto:wildbuna@hotmail.com)) at any time.

**Item 4: Fundraising and Ideas Box**

- Special meeting to discuss fundraising and the bar to be held 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009

**Item 5: Events and Events Calender for 2009**

**Item 6: Photo and Sticker Competitions**

**Item 7: Contact List**

**Item 8: Funding Applications**

**Item 9: Next Meeting**

Weather and pilot pending Nights Jumps on the 21<sup>st</sup> February will be followed by a special meeting to discuss fund raising ideas and the bar.



### Award Winners

Bones - Joe Tuppen Chopper  
Joe - Up and Coming Friz  
Brad - Johnny Beaza Landing  
Bear - Camera Geek  
John-Paul - Where's the Target  
Phil - Top Gun (One Minute Late!)  
Judy - Up and Coming Jumper  
Rani - Free Styler

Australia saw me backpacking around for one year. A wonderful year in which I spent 6 lovely weeks at a great place somewhere in Queensland. Ripcord Skydivers. I got to meet you awesome DZ locals, I learned how to pack a rig, welcoming 'fresh meat' and see the smile on their faces after their jump. Learning how to skydive myself I fell out of PLE and JQC a couple of times of which two attempts were almost successful.

I had a great time at the RAAF Airshow watching you guys jump, having fun and partying! I reckon the demo was the best part of the whole show hey it looked so cool!! And yeah I was mostly limping all around the place but I wouldn't have want to miss it for the world!!

After 1,5 month @ Ripcord being surrounded by you skydivers I think I can definitely say I liked it a lot!!! You guys are like one big family, looking out for each other and helping each other, that's so great and I felt really welcome and I am happy that I have experienced a view into the skydivers world and lifestyle. It was good to be a part of it all. You guys rule!

I'll go back home with a lot more vocabulary (including some good old ozzie slang) and some of the words I already knew will ever have the same meaning. Hearing words like racer, door, pull and container will be enough to put a smile on my face.

Thank you guys for having me around, you are all awesome, wonderful people! Gonna miss y'all!

No more..... hearing Brenda say; 'what's that crap you're watching?!'... waking up and starting my day to the sounds and music of the tandem and solo videos... friday night eagle boys pizza... playing Billy's huge scrabble on the landing area at 2am... sleeping in the gorilla pit... seeing ghosts in the back of that pit... putting funny movies from the RAAF weekend on youtube... going out to the pub in the yellow van... landing in horse paddocks and almost hitting the powerlines... table reservations at the KFC ... putting a carton on for first treelanding (but hey, there's always 2nd, 3rd, ..)... enjoying Bear's guitar playing... laughing at Joe's funny stories... 'top of the morning to ya!' wishes from LJ... watching scary movies with Michelle... witnessing you guys injure yourselves resulting in bruises, broken bones and burned feet; Brad, Nat, Chris, Kylie: stay safe... welcoming fresh meat... seeing you guys! miss y'all!

And well I guess I had my 15 minutes of fame

It's the people who make the memory. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR THE GOOD TIMES! See you on facebook and hopefully sometime in Europe (or anywhere really). Come and have a drink with me in the Netherlands. You are really welcome!

Cheers!

| Carpe diem & carpe noctem, Efi

| P.S Brian (Irish) O'Shea wishes all a great new year

Freddy Mercury (deceased) of the rock band Queen didn't like that canopy much;  
In the song Bohemian Rhapsody he sang:

**Freddy:** "I see a little Stiletto with a man"

**Rest of band:** "Scaramouch! Scaramouch! Will you jump my Fandango"

"Not as fast as my Lightning, but very very frightening! Me!"

**Freddy:** "Hey no way-oh!"

**Rest of band:** "Hey no way-oh DZO! (magnifico-oh-oh)"

**Freddy:** "I've got an StratoCloud nobody loves me"

**Rest of band:** "He's just a poor boy with an old canopy!"

"Sparing his life with that monstrosity!"

**Freddy:** "Easy come easy go, flare it high dump it low"

**Some of the band:** "This will not do!"

**Rest of band:** "he likes to smoke it low!"

**Some of the band:** "This will not do!"

**Some more of the band:** "he likes his openings slow"

**Rest of band:** ("let him go")

**Some of the band:** "This will not do!"

**Some more of the band:** "he scares the DZO"

**Rest of band:** ("let him go")

**Rest of band:** "they'll never let him go"

**Freddy:** "Let me go!"

**Rest of band:** "they'll never let him go"

**Freddy:** "oh no no no no no no no!"

**Freddy:** "Mamma Mia!"

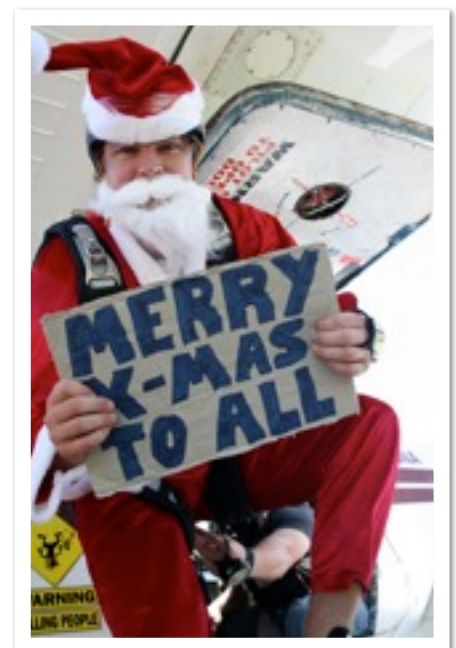
**Rest of band:** Mamma Mia

**Freddy:** "Mamma Mia!"

**Rest of band:** Mamma Mia

**Freddy:** "The DZ pub has a beverage put asside for me, for me, for  
meeeeeeeeeee!"

**BEGIN HUGE GUITAR SOLO!**



Accidents don't just happen. They evolve, they develop from a series of unfortunate events, they develop from a series of decisions from a series of mistakes.

What happens with this development is that it is compounded by chaos and, when chaos takes over, there is almost no chance of predicting what will happen or what the outcome may be. By the time the incident has descended into chaos, it's too late. You end up just along for the ride suffering the consequences as the case so often is.

The good news in all of this is that, since the anatomy of an accident is one of evolution, you can trace back the individual elements, unraveling the thread and rolling back time, in a sense, to see where you contributed and what you could have done differently to change the outcome.

Doing this after an accident is a painful process and it is often very difficult to shoulder some (if any) of the blame, especially when you are injured. But, unless you take a long hard look at what happened and at your involvement in it, you will probably have the same accident again, and again. And blame it on the other person. and the next time you make that mistake the consequences may be far worse.

Better to be honest, learn from experience and become wiser from it.

But there is an easier way, and that is to be prepared, to learn to read the environment and to make the appropriate adjustment before the situation becomes an incident and certainly before the incident becomes an accident. The key to this is increased observational awareness. Lift your eyes and look around your environment. It's about giving yourself more time to make informed decisions about ways to manage the risk. Maintaining full concentration all the time is impossible, so you need to be alert - ready for action.

I recently had an incident, consecutive jumps, both cutaway, both a result of complacent packing, both had an independent gear check before boarding. Resulting in self grounding for three weeks, two reserve repacks, replacing one main ripcord and one reserve bag, a huge wake up call, and grateful of the 500+ practice emergency procedures.

Play your part and look out for yourself and your jump buddies, accidents don't just happen.





Sky like blue ice  
Whipped hair around my face  
I float in a place far between  
Their rock solid reality and space  
Cloud carpet-  
A rolling ocean I go thru  
Untouched, but for the rush  
Do the birds even see  
How special it is for me?  
You and I fly  
I love your smile  
We dance, relaxed and fluttering  
Skin tight in the wind  
Hands just touching  
My soul set free  
Mind clear, not cluttered with dark emotions  
Laughing as I dive down deep  
I chew up the fear that rises up in me  
Then later under a canopy of stars  
I lie down and dream  
Imagining myself there  
Just fast and free in the air.

By Bones