

## Vicky's Skydive

*7<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at GoSkyDive in Salisbury*



I woke on Saturday morning to a bright sunny day and knew instantly that the conditions would be perfect and that my jump would be going ahead. With nerves already at a high I was unable to face breakfast but forced some tea and toast down. I set off on my journey to Salisbury and arrived at 9.30am. After signing in and completing the training session I just had to wait to find out when I would jump. I was in group 5 so had a while to wait. I had a coffee and watched with increasing fear as others were kitted out and flown up into the sky!

Eventually at about 2.30pm my name was called. I was given my jump suit and fitted with a harness. I then met my instructor.... he said "Hello Vicky, my name is Daniel. We have about 10 minutes to get to know each other and then I will save your life!" OMG ... talk about highlight the fact I was about to put my life at risk! This filled me with even more nerves! However, Daniel was fantastic; he kept me calm and constantly reassured me that everything would be ok. He explained exactly what I had to do and that I was about to have the experience of a lifetime! I then met my Cameraman Nick and the three of us headed to board the plane!

With butterflies going crazy in my tummy we soared to 10,000ft, where a number of people took their turn to jump. The door was then closed and we climbed the extra mile to the top height of 15,000ft. Final preparations were made, my harness checked and tightened. The men kept me smiling but deep down I was feeling terrified. As the door opened and we shuffled to get into position, the nerves became very visible... I could feel myself shaking! But before I knew it they were counting down and that was it..... We jumped..... Plummeting through the sky, the air rushing up in my face, I was unable to control the screams, that feeling of "this is it, it's all over" ran through my mind!

But seconds later, with the command to spread my arms and with the sight of my cameraman in front of me I couldn't stop smiling, I suddenly realised that all was ok, I was freefalling at about 120mph and was loving it, just needed the parachute to open!

I was able to interact with my cameraman and he even got close enough to give me a high five! Amazing!

Before I knew it the parachute did open and I had slowed to a much gentler pace. At this point I was able to gather my thoughts, released the pressure from my ears (the altitude & speed had certainly taken effect) and then took in the stunning views. It was unbelievable, I was above the level of the clouds, and the sun was shining beyond them creating a heavenly sight. The ground still over a mile below me.... It really was breathtaking. I was given the handles and took over steering for a short time. It was so much fun! We saw Stonehenge and Salisbury Cathedral.

Then it was all over, the ground was fast approaching, it was time to land! We landed well, on our feet and the realisation of what I'd just done hit me. I had really done it! The adrenaline continued to pump through me for some time afterwards. I couldn't stop smiling. I had achieved something amazing.... Jumped out of plane raising vital funds for The College. I have to say thank you so much to everyone who has supported and sponsored me, I really couldn't have done it without you all. You have helped raise money for this wonderful charity. Thank you!

If you would like to see the video of my jump please visit and like our Facebook page.

