Boulton Paul Defiant
An Illustrated History
Alec Brew

Over 200 rare and previously unpublished illustrations of this iconic aircraft - the Boulton Paul Defiant.

Summary
Fighting over the beaches of Dunkirk and in the Battle of Britain, guarding the night skies during the perilous months of the Blitz, pioneering electronic countermeasures, and serving air-sea rescue roles all around our coasts, the Boulton Paul Defiant played a vital part through most of World War II, finishing it in the important target-tug role. The Defiant is rightly considered Wolverhampton’s highest profile contribution to the war, and the most important product of Boulton Paul Aircraft. This book celebrates the contribution of the Defiant to the war in more than 200 illustrations, most from Boulton Paul’s own archives, and many never published before. It exposes some of the false myths attached to an aircraft held in great affection by many of its crews.

Contributor Bio
Alec Brew is curator of the Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre in Wolverhampton. He also writes for the Wolverhampton Chronicle.

Alarmstart South and Final Defeat
The German Fighter Pilot’s Experience in the Mediterranean Theatre 1941-44 and Normandy, Norway and Germany 1944-45
Patrick G. Eriksson

The personal reminiscences of Luftwaffe veterans and original documents and images give a unique insight into the Mediterranean theatre and late aerial war battles.

Summary
The author utilizes extensive personal reminiscences of veterans and original documents. Veterans who flew in Me 109, Fw 190 and Me 110/410 aircraft provide their stories in their own words. They range from junior NCOs to Colonels, including a senior fighter controller and one of the Luftwaffe’s psychologists. The Mediterranean theater gave the top scoring aces on both sides for the entire war (excluding the Russian front battles): Hans-Joachim Marseille (158 victory claims) on the German side and "Pat" Pattle (an estimated 41 and possibly more claims), a South African, on the British side. In the vicious air battles over the Mediterranean region, many aircrew ended up "in the drink" with small chance of ever being found. Occasionally, a miracle would happen, as with Dr. Felix Sauer of JG 53, a pre-war high school biology teacher, who survived 8 days in a dinghy at sea.

Contributor Bio
Patrick G. Eriksson has devoted many years to research for this series of books. He returned to primary sources and, crucially, as an associate member of the German Air Force Veteran's Association since 1974, he has interviewed and corresponded with more than a hundred former members of the Luftwaffe, from junior NCOs to Geschwader commanders. Such primary material is unavailable anywhere else and can never be gathered again.
**Arnhem (2nd Edition)**

**Nine Days of Battle**

Chris Brown

Arnhem 1944 remains the greatest airborne battle of all time – this is the ultimate companion to that battle.

**Summary**

The greatest airborne operation in history commenced on September 17, 1944. Nine days later nearly four out five of the British 1st Airborne Division and their Polish comrades would be killed, wounded, or captured. The ferocious and gallant actions in Arnhem and Oosterbeek have fascinated historians and students ever since. Drawing extensively on eye-witness experience and unit diaries, and providing a detailed tactical and technical analysis of the arms, equipment, and practices of the day, this book provides a fascinating day-on-day account of one of the most iconic actions of World War II. Supported by battle maps, timelines, and troop diagrams as well as touring guides, this is the perfect companion for the armchair historian or the intrepid battlefield traveler.

**Contributor Bio**

Chris Brown is a defense analyst and military historian.

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**Loganair**

**Scotland’s Enduring Airline**

Keith Anderson

Rare and unpublished photographs are included in this highly illustrated history of a Scottish icon.

**Summary**

Loganair was founded in 1962 and has operated from a variety of Scottish cities over the course of its history. Over the years, it has operated a variety of different aircraft and provided services for Royal Mail, as well as general cargo and passenger duties. The company fly to destinations in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Republic of Ireland and Norway. With a wealth of rare and previously unpublished images, Keith Anderson tells the story of a company that has been a key part of the British aviation scene for more than 50 years and become a Scottish icon.

**Contributor Bio**

Keith Anderson trained as an industrial transportation designer in Coventry where he discovered his passion for innovative light rail transit. His career took him on to strategic marketing. After winning a prestigious industry award he turned down job opportunities with Rover and Centro to remain in the SME sector.
Southampton Airport Through Time
Peter C. Brown

Exploring rare and unpublished historic illustrations recording the history of Southampton airport over time.

Summary
Southampton Airport boasts a long history, with the first aircraft taking off from the original site at Stoneham Farm in 1910. Requisitioned by the War Office in 1917 as an aircraft assembly area, it was given to the US Navy to develop. The current airport was established in 1932, and was the test bed for R. J. Mitchell’s prototype Spitfire. The airport was commissioned as HMS Raven in 1939, and subsequently spent most of the war in service with the Royal Navy. Regular air services returned in 1945, and by the early 1950s Southampton was one of the busiest airports outside of London. Despite the nationwide slump in air passenger traffic during the 1970s, huge investment was made by its owners Airports UK Ltd, and a decade later it was purchased by the British Airports Authority. Currently owned by Heathrow Airport Holdings, it is steadily climbing the ranks of the UK’s busiest airports.

Contributor Bio
Peter C. Brown is a freelance writer, online journal editor, and writes for several websites.

Unsolved Aviation Mysteries
Five Strange Tales of Air and Sea
Keith McCloskey

A fresh assessment of five of the most compelling unresolved aviation mysteries

Summary
What does a lesser-known member of the Kennedy clan have in common with a Sri-Lankan businessman? Or with Albert Loewenstein, one of the richest men in the world in 1928, who mysteriously fell from his plane into the English Channel? Or with two aircraft that went missing and were never found, one disappearing over Scotland in 1975 and the other in 1953 over Lake Superior? In this gripping new book, Keith McCloskey, who has previously written about the Dyatlov Incident among others, turns his attention to reassessing these five unresolved aviation mysteries, all of which occurred over water, none of them ever resolved. These are mysterious stories where conspiracy theories abound, whether of sabotage, murder, and even UFO involvement.

Contributor Bio
Keith McCloskey is the author of Airwork, The Lighthouse, and Mountain of the Dead. He has acted as consultant to TV programs on the Dyatlov Incident and been interviewed on radio.
Flight 7 Is Missing: The Search For My Father’s Killer

Ken H Fortenberry

Summary
Dubbed by The New York Times as one of the “most vexing and unexplained” mysteries in aviation history, the crash of Pan American World Airways Flight 7 in November 1957 resulted in many deaths and remains officially unsolved to this day. But Ken Fortenberry, an award-winning journalist whose father was the copilot and navigator aboard the ill-fated plane, has devoted nearly sixty years of his life to unraveling this cold-case mystery, and has come to a staggering conclusion: that the victims of the crash were deliberately murdered. A remarkably researched book packed with information and emotion, Flight 7 Is Missing: The Search For My Father’s Killer is a gripping page-turner that reads like a fast-paced murder mystery. Join Fortenberry on his crusade as he tirelessly tracks down every possible lead and eventually exposes the person he believes responsible for this tragic crime.

Contributor Bio
A nationally recognized journalist and author, Ken H. Fortenberry spent more than 40 years in the newspaper business and personally earned more than 150 state, regional and national awards for excellence in journalism before his retirement in 2014. His directed newspaper coverage of child molesters teaching in public schools won the American Bar Association’s Silver Gavel Award, the Society of Professional Journalists’ (Sigma Delta Chi) Bronze Medallion for Public Service, and the national Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE) award for investigative reporting. In 1987 millions of Americans were introduced to his work when he was featured on the CBS News program “60 Minutes,” the NBC “Today” show and profiled in the New York Times for his courageous reporting of corruption in a South Carolina sheriff’s office that resulted in explosions being set off at his home. He later wrote about his experiences in the critically acclaimed non-fiction book Kill the Messenger, published by Peachtree Publishers, and optioned several times for a TV movie. A Miami native now living in the mountai...

Through Adversity
The Story of Life in the RFC and RAF Through Three Operational Pilots
Alastair Goodrum

The stories of three individual careers combine seamlessly to tell the dramatic story of the RAF from the era of biplanes and into the jet age of the Cold War.

Summary
How did the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) "cavalry of the air" transform into the strategic RAF of the Cold War? The flying lives of these three pilots combine across the years to illustrate how it happened. Trained on Bristol Boxkites in 1912, Major Leonard Dawes helped shape the RFC in its infancy. Posted to France with BE2s, he saw action at the birth of battlefield reconnaissance and air fighting, then activated many new squadrons during World War I. Joining the RAF in 1923, Group Captain Dickie Barwell became a fighter pilot and respected leader of men. As a Hurricane squadron commander, he routed the first major Luftwaffe air attack of World War II and flew with Bader’s Wing in the Battle of Britain. While commanding RAF Biggin Hill, he flew combat operations over France before his death in a friendly-fire incident in 1942. Squadron Leader Brian Fern learned to fly at Ponca City, Oklahoma in 1942, then trained hundreds of RAF bomber pilots during World War II. Post-war tours on Canberra bombers and spy flights in Chipmunks were followed by selection to the elite Valiant bomber force...

Contributor Bio
Alastair Goodrum is retired. He has written aviation history articles and five books since 1984, and has given illustrated talks to a variety of clubs for more than 20 years.
**Wally Funk's Race for Space**

*The Extraordinary Story of a Female Aviation Pioneer*

Sue Nelson

**Summary**

Wally Funk was among the Mercury 13, the first group of American pilots to complete NASA's 1961 Women in Space program. Funk breezed through the rigorous physical and mental tests, her scores beating those of many of the male candidates—even John Glenn. Just one week before Funk was to enter the final phase of training, the entire program was abruptly cancelled. Politics and prejudice meant that none of the more-than-qualified women ever went to space. Undeterred, Funk went on to become one of America's first female aviation inspectors and civilian flight instructors, though her dream of being an astronaut never dimmed.

In this offbeat odyssey, journalist and fellow space buff Sue Nelson travels with Wally Funk, approaching her 80th birthday, as she races to make her giant leap. Covering their travels across the United States and Europe—taking in NASA's mission control in Houston and Spaceport America in New Mexico, where Funk's ride to space awaits—this is a uniquely intimate and entertaining portrait of a true aviation trailblazer.

**Contributor Bio**

Sue Nelson is an award-winning science journalist and broadcaster. A former BBC TV science and environment correspondent, Nelson also was editor of *The Biologist* and currently makes short films on space missions for the European Space Agency. She received a New York Festivals International Radio Program award (2017) for her documentary about the history of women in space, called *Women with the Right Stuff*, that was made with Wally Funk.

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**The Astronaut Maker**

*How One Mysterious Engineer Ran Human Spaceflight for a Generation*

Michael Cassutt

**Summary**

One of the most elusive and controversial figures in NASA's history, George W. S. Abbey was called “the Dark Lord,” “the Godfather,” and “UNO”—short for unidentified NASA official. He was said to be secretive, despotic, a Space Age Machiavelli. Yet Abbey had more influence on human spaceflight than almost anyone in history. His story has never been told—until now.

*The Astronaut Maker* takes readers inside NASA to learn the real story of how Abbey rose to power, from young pilot and wannabe astronaut to engineer, bureaucrat, and finally director of the Johnson Space Center. During a thirty-seven-year career, mostly out of the spotlight, he oversaw the selection of every astronaut class from 1978 to 1987, deciding who got to fly and when. He was with the Apollo 1 astronauts the night before the fatal fire in January 1967. He was in mission control the night of the Apollo 13 accident and organized the recovery effort. Abbey also led NASA's recruitment of women and minorities as space shuttle astronauts and was responsible for hiring Sally Ride.

Written by Michael Cassutt, the coau...

**Contributor Bio**

Michael Cassutt is the coauthor of *DEKE!*, the autobiography of astronaut Donald K. "Deke" Slayton, and *We Have Capture*, the autobiography of astronaut Lt. Gen. Thomas Stafford, and the author of three editions of *Who's Who in Space* (1987, 1993, 1999). He has also written eight space-themed novels and thirty short stories published in *Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction* and elsewhere. As a television writer and producer, Cassutt has been a member of the writing team of a dozen different series, from *The Twilight Zone* to *Max Headroom* to *The Dead Zone*. He is currently co-executive producer of SyFy Channel's series *Z Nation*. 
The Fun of It
Amelia Earhart

Summary
Autobiography of the famous flyer which describes her own ambitions to become a pilot and offers advice to others.

The Defeat of the Luftwaffe
The Eastern Front 1941-45, A Strategy for Disaster
Jonathan Trigg

In 1941 the Luftwaffe was the most powerful air force in the world. This is the story of how it was utterly defeated on the Eastern Front.

Summary
In 1939 and 1940, the Nazi blitzkrieg crushed Poland and the Low Countries and France. This was a new type of warfare, with air and ground forces sweeping away all resistance. In the air its symbol was the all-conquering Luftwaffe. When Hitler looked further east in 1941, the Luftwaffe spearheaded the largest invasion in world history, destroying thousands of Red Air Force planes. Yet less than four years later that same Red Air Force flew unopposed over Hitler’s burning Reich Chancellery. Using original research, this book explains how the Nazi Luftwaffe’s victory in the east was transformed into ashes through incompetence, misjudgement, and hubris.

Contributor Bio
Jonathan Trigg served as an infantry officer in the Royal Anglian Regiment. He now has his own business training the long-term unemployed to get them into work. His previous books include Hitler’s Vikings.
Alarmstart East
The German Fighter Pilot's Experience on the Eastern Front 1941-1945
Patrick G. Eriksson

Summary
For anyone interested in the air war 1939-45, the information provided here is of inestimable value. There are no more than a handful of WW2 Luftwaffe members alive today. Patrick Eriksson had the foresight to record these experiences first-hand before it was too late. The recollections and views of the veterans are put within the context of the German aerial war history. By no means all the witnesses were from the ranks of the so-called "aces." It was on the Eastern Front that, essentially, much of the Luftwaffe was destroyed, and this is the subject of the second in the author's trilogy. Death wasn't always in the air: "'Quick, get out of the plane, the airfield's been overrun.' German tanks ran over German wounded. Our emaciated infantrymen threw away their rifles, fell into the snow after a few metres, and died." (Pilot Hans Grunberg.) Towards the end in the Stalingrad pocket pilots were so starved they could no longer turn tightly in aerial combat without passing out.

Contributor Bio
Patrick G. Eriksson is the author of Alarmstart.

Night Witches
The Amazing Story of Russia's Women Pilots in WWII
Bruce Myles

Summary
In 1941, as Nazi hordes swept east into the Soviet Union, a desperate call went out for women to join the Russian air force. The result—three entire regiments of women pilots and bombers—was a phenomenon unmatched in World II. Through interviews with these courageous pilots, the author uncovers their story. Soon to be a major motion picture.
Science that Changed the World
Remarkable Discoveries and Breakthroughs
Stuart Kumar-Terry

Summary
History is full of men and women who asked big questions and found exciting answers. People are still making incredible discoveries about our strange and beautiful world. By questioning, guessing, observing and thinking, we have more knowledge and technology than ever before.

With vibrant pictures and interesting facts, The Science That Changed The World looks at the biggest breakthroughs in chemistry, physics, biology and more. Explore the mysterious solar system and the inside of an atom, and start to wonder: what will the next big discovery be?

Contributor Bio
Stuart has a passion for science and education, and loves nothing more than regale his family and friends with interesting facts about our incredible universe.

Ever fascinated by the world, and possessed by the need to tell everyone about it, he graduated at University with a Bachelor of Science with the hopes of communicating the joys and wonders of the Universe to one and all, young and old.

Engine Out Survival Tactics
Fighter Pilot Tactics for General Aviation Engine Loss Emergencies
Nate Jaros

Summary
Are you prepared to handle an engine loss event in your single engine piston aircraft? Are you current and trained in all aspects of the General Aviation engine loss situation? What is your best glide speed, best glide ratio? Do you know where High Key is? Did you know that about 30% of all General Aviation single engine aircraft crashes are the result of a mechanical engine failure? Are you prepared? Seriously...are you ready? Engine Out Survival Tactics is a book for single engine General Aviation pilots, Certified Flight Instructors, and Flight Schools and will teach you advanced engine loss recovery techniques from the unique prospective of a US Air Force Fighter Pilot and Test Pilot. This book will take your knowledge and preparedness to the next level! With advanced discussions on glide ratios, emergency procedures, critical action checklist steps, landing site selection, the gear up or down debate, and military style overhead and straight-in engine out landing procedures, Engine Out Survival Tactics takes your knowledge and training to a higher level that has never before been...

Contributor Bio
Nate “Buster” Jaros is a retired USAF fighter pilot with over 2,000 hours in F-16 C/D/CM and T-38A/C aircraft and over 500 hours in General Aviation aircraft. He is currently in the Test Division and an Instructor Pilot with a Defense Contractor. He has a Bachelor of Science degree as well as a Master of Business Administration and owns, operates, and maintains a 1969 V-tail Bonanza. Buster currently resides in Las Vegas, Nevada and is a long-time member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association as well as the American Bonanza Society. You can view his webpage at: http://engineout.weebly.com
**Women in Space**

23 Stories of First Flights, Scientific Missions, and Gravity-Breaking Adventures

Karen Bush Gibson

**Summary**

When Valentina Tereshkova blasted off aboard Vostok 6 on June 16, 1963, she became the first woman to rocket into space. It would be 19 years before another woman got a chance—cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya in 1982—followed by American astronaut Sally Ride a year later. By breaking the stratospheric ceiling, these women forged a path for many female astronauts, cosmonauts, and mission specialists to follow.

Women in Space profiles 23 pioneers, including Eileen Collins, the first woman to command the space shuttle; Peggy Whitson, who logged more than a year in orbit aboard the International Space Station; and Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space; as well as astronauts from Japan, Canada, Italy, South Korea, France, and more. Readers will also learn about the Mercury 13, American women selected by NASA in the late 1950s to train for spaceflight. Though they matched and sometimes surpassed their male counterparts in performance, they were ultimately denied the opportunity to head out to the launching pad. Their story, and the stories of the pilots, physicists...

**Contributor Bio**

Karen Bush Gibson is the author of three dozen books for young readers, including *Women Aviators* and *Native American History for Kids*.

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**Women Aviators**

26 Stories of Pioneer Flights, Daring Missions, and Record-Setting Journeys

Karen Bush Gibson

**Summary**

A Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

From the very first days of aviation, women were there. Katherine Wright, though not a pilot, helped her brothers Orville and Wilbur so much that some called her the “Third Wright Brother.” Pioneers such as Baroness Raymonde de Laroche of France ignored those who ignorantly claimed that only men possessed the physical strength or the mental capacity to pilot an airplane, and in 1910 became the first woman awarded a license to fly. A year later, Harriet Quimby was the first woman to earn a pilot’s license in the United States and in 1912 flew across the English Channel—another first.

Author Karen Bush Gibson profiles 26 women aviators who sought out and met challenges both in the sky and on the ground, where some still questioned their abilities. Read about barnstormers like Bessie Coleman and racers like Louise Thaden, who bested Amelia Earhart and Pancho Barnes to win the 1929 Women’s Air Derby, sometimes called the Powder Puff Derby. Learn about Jacqueline Cochran who, during World War II, organized and trained the Wom...

**Contributor Bio**

Karen Bush Gibson is the author of three dozen books for young readers, including *Native American History for Kids*.
The Missing Man
From the Outback to Tarakan, the Powerful Story of Len Waters, the RAAF's Only WWII Aboriginal Fighter Pilot
Peter Rees

Summary
"You were the master of the machine . . . you were an airman." —Flying Officer Bob Crawford

Len Waters was a Kamilaroi man. Born on an Aboriginal reserve, he left school at 13 and by 20 was piloting a RAAF Kittyhawk fighter with 78 Squadron in the lethal skies over the Pacific in World War II. It was serious and dangerous work and his achievement was extraordinary. These would be the best years of his life. Respected by his peers, he was living his dream. The war over, it should have been easy. He believed he could "live on both sides of the fence" and be part of Australia's emerging commercial airline industry. He had, after all, broken through the "black ceiling" once before. Above all, he just wanted to fly. Instead, he became a missing man in Australia's wartime flying history. Peter Rees rights that wrong in this powerful, compelling, and at times tragic examination of Len Water's life. He also tells us something of ourselves that we need to hear.

Contributor Bio
Peter Rees is the author of The Boy from Boree Creek; Tim Fischer's Outback Heroes; Killing Juanita, which was a winner of the 2004 Ned Kelly Award for Australian crime writing; The Other Anzacs, republished as Anzac Girls; Desert Boys; Lancaster Men; and Bearing Witness, which won the Anzac Centenary Literary Prize in 2015.

The Men Who Killed Qantas
Greed, Lies and Crashes
Matthew Benns

Summary
This book is the account of the Qantas story that every airline passenger needs to read: the full and frank history of Australia's national airline—updated with two new chapters. It takes you into the boardroom, where golden parachutes are signed off, and onto the hangar floor, where engineers battle accounting cuts to keep planes flying safely. It takes you back to the foundation of the airline to disprove the line that Qantas never crashes. This is the warts and all history the Qantas PR department does not want you to read . . . but you can bet they'll be reading it, too!

Contributor Bio
Matthew Benns is a freelance journalist and has written for publications from the SMH to the Sun Herald to the UK tabloids. He is also the author of Dirty Money.
The Man Who Saved Smithy
Fighter Pilot, Pioneer Aviator, Hero: The Life of Sir Gordon Taylor GC, MC
Rick Searle

Summary
Patrick Gordon "Bill" Taylor was a pioneer of Australian aviation. As a fighter pilot during World War I, he was awarded the Military Cross and discovered a life-long passion for flight and air navigation. Returning to Australia after the war, he became a close friend of Charles Kingsford Smith; they went on to form an incredible flying partnership, setting records around the globe. It was on a flight across the Tasman in Smithy's famous Southern Cross that Taylor earned the Empire's highest award for civilian bravery, the George Cross. With one engine out of action and another fast running out of oil, Taylor repeatedly climbed out of the cockpit to transfer oil to the stricken engine and keep the Southern Cross flying—all this while suspended over the sea in a howling slipstream. After the deaths of his friends Charles Ulm and Kingsford Smith in separate accidents, Taylor became Australia's greatest surviving aviator, pioneering vital new trans-oceanic air routes during World War II and receiving a knighthood in honor of his services to flight. The Man Who Saved Smithy is the enthra...

Contributor Bio
Rick Searle has been a full-time freelance writer and film maker for almost 40 years. He has worked in radio, television, and film, and lectured in television writing at the Queensland University of Technology. Rick has had a lifelong interest in aviation, and a long-standing fascination with the life of Australian flyer, and navigator Sir Gordon Taylor.

Unsolved
Terror, Crimes, Accidents: Latest Facts & Findings
Chris McLeod

Summary
From Amelia Earhart's Lockheed Electra to the MH 370 Boeing 777, at least 100 planes, and the people in them, have disappeared from the skies since humans first took to the air. For some, the cause has never been properly explained. For others, accidents and terrorism are responsible. A person has a one in 5,000 chance of perishing in a car crash compared to a one in 11 million chance of being involved in a fatal plane crash. But the mystery and speculation surrounding a vanishing plane generates great drama; and it's not just planes, but also ships that seem to disappear off the face of the earth. This book takes a fascinating look at many of these incidents, and contains some of the most curious—and mostly unresolved—disappearances in 100 years of flight.

Contributor Bio
Chris McLeod was a newspaper journalist for more than 40 years.
Fighter Pilot
Mis-Adventures Beyond the Sound Barrier with an Australian Top Gun
Mac 'Serge' Tucker

Summary
The candid adventures of a real-life Top Gun

Mac Tucker—or "Serge," to use his callsign name—is one of an elite group of men trained to fly F-18 jets. Now, for the first time, Serge takes you behind the scenes of the fighter pilot world to reveal what it's really like. Find out how it feels to be shot at by SAS snipers, to be lost in a $50 million jet over Northern Australia with nothing but car lights to guide you home, to rupture your sinuses while flying, to inadvertently bomb a yacht, and to face death on an almost daily basis. From the Pentagon to the South China Sea, the deserts of Australia to the wars of the Middle East, this book is as action-packed as it is entertaining.

Contributor Bio
Mac 'Serge' Tucker holds a Masters degree in Aviation Industry Management. Now retired from the air force, he spends his days managing a consulting and training company in Australia.

Spitfire Girl
My Life in the Sky
Jackie Moggridge, Candy Moggridge

Summary
From her first flight at 15, Jackie Moggridge was hooked on flying. However, with the outbreak of World War II, Jackie's training was cut short. Determined to fly, she joined the ATA. Ferrying aircraft from factory to frontline was dangerous work, but Jackie excelled. She ferried more than 1500 aircraft during the war, more than any other ATA pilot, male or female. Spitfire Girl tells Jackie's remarkable story, in her own words. This is the memoir of the remarkable Jackie Moggridge: female pilot, Spitfire expert, and pioneer.

Contributor Bio
Jackie Moggridge joined the ATA during WWII, receiving a King's Commendation for Services in the Air. After the war she continued to fly professionally.
**My Carrier War**
Norman Berg

**Summary**
From his days as a Naval aviation cadet learning his trade aboard the Yellow Peril biplane trainers in 1942, to his first bombing runs on Guadalcanal, to life aboard an aircraft carrier in the South Pacific, Norman Berg offers a fast-paced narrative filled with humor and meticulous attention to detail. Much more than a simple WWII memoir, this story goes beyond the action of battle to explore one young, wartime couple's struggle to balance love, duty, and their commitment to each other.

**Contributor Bio**
Norman E. Berg served as a carrier pilot from 1942-45, and again during the Korean Conflict. He retired with the rank of Captain in 1966, and served as an executive with the Boy Scouts of America. He is the author of Regret To Inform You: Experiences of Families Who Lost a Family Member in Vietnam. Norman currently lives in Huguenot, NY. He currently lives in New York.

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**Flying Among Heroes**
The Story of Squadron Leader T.C.S Cooke DFC AFC DFM AE
Norman Franks, Simon Muggleton

**Summary**
T.C.S. Cooke joined the RAF as war began in 1939, aged 18, and trained to be a bomber pilot. Rising to the rank of squadron leader and decorated three times, Cooke bombed Berlin on October 7, 1940 in a Whitley Mk V, nearly ditching in the North Sea. Throughout this tour he faced the usual dangers of wartime aircrew, his aircraft being hit by AA fire on several occasions, once almost having to order his aircrew to bail out but landed safely at the last minute. They were also attacked by night fighters, encountered icing and even shot up a train and bomber station at tree-top level. Flying Wellingtons and Stirlings, Cooke took part in the infamous 1,000-bomber raid on Cologne and Essen, before returning to operations flying Special Ops Halifax aircraft, dropping agents into enemy-occupied France. After a dozen missions, he was shot down but he and his navigator survived and evaded capture. Helped by the French resistance, they got into Spain and returned home via Gibraltar. Both men received the DFC for their bravery. While their story is not totally unique, their adventures and courag...

**Contributor Bio**
Norman Franks is one of the world’s leading authorities on WWI fighter aviation, having published some of the seminal works on the subject. Simon Muggleton joined the Merchant Navy after leaving London Nautical School as an apprentice deck officer with the Bank Line Steamship Company. After marrying and living in New Guinea, he returned to the UK and worked at New Scotland Yard. He then transferred to Sussex Police before his retirement. He is a keen researcher on the RAF and its crews, with a particular interest in the Battle of Britain. He has co-authored three other books with Norman Franks.
From Night Flak to Hijack

It's a Small World
Captain Reginald Levy DFC, Alex L. Schiphorst

Summary
This is the autobiography of Reginald Levy, a British pilot who reached a total of 25,090 flying hours in over 40 years of civil, military, and commercial aviation. He recounts his training and military operations as an RAF pilot during the Second World War. He flies 44 types of aircraft between 1941 and 1981. He takes part in the Berlin Airlift, and in 1952 joins Sabena airline. In 1972, he is hijacked by Black September terrorists, and plays a heroic part thanks to his professionalism and training. Not only does the book offer an insight into the hardships and camaraderie of the war and of the Cold War, it also gives a first-hand report of a Palestinian terrorist attempt. Two of the Israeli commandos who freed the hostages would go on to become Prime Ministers of Israel—Barak and Netenyahu! The epilogue is provided by his youngest grandson.

Contributor Bio
Reginald Levy passed away in 2010. Extensive obituaries were run in all the broadsheets outlining his extraordinary flying career. He was honored by Israeli Prime Minister Gold Meir. Alex L. Schiphorst, Levy's grandson, has prepared Reginald's autobiography for publication, and provides background information.

Hitler's Heroine

Hanna Reitsch
Sophie Jackson

Summary
The story of the only woman in World War II to be awarded the Iron Cross, including her extreme flying and her relationship with Hitler

Hanna Reitsch longed to fly. Breaking records and earning the respect of the Nazi regime, she became the first female Luftwaffe test pilot, earning significant awards and becoming a personal heroine of Hitler's. Reitsch was an ardent Nazi and was prepared to die for the cause, first as a test pilot for the dangerous V1 rockets and later by volunteering for a suggested Nazi "kamikaze" squadron. After her capture she complained bitterly of not being able to die with her leader, but went on to live a celebrated flying career post-war, breaking more records for gliding. When she died a new mystery was created—did Hanna kill herself? Why did she die when she did? Using first-hand material including interviews with Hannah and newly released U.S. interrogation records, this book reveals new facts about the mysterious Hanna and cuts through the many myths that have surrounded her life and death, bringing the fascinating Reitsch back to life for the 21st century...

Contributor Bio
Sophie Jackson has been widely published in magazines including the Antiques Info Magazine, Daily Mirror, Family History Monthly, Your Family History, and Your Family Tree. She is the author of Churchill's White Rabbit.
They Spread Their Wings
Six Courageous Airmen in Combat in the Second World War
Alastair Goodrum

Summary
How Lincolnshire schoolboys became combat airmen—the adventures of six brave young men in WWII.

What turns an ordinary man into an extraordinary one? The answer lies in these stories of teenage volunteers for wartime aircrew who exchanged their school uniforms for Air Force Blue and took a giant step into the unknown. It was a dangerous adventure, but one with a hugely tempting prospect: the opportunity to FLY. From the skies over Europe to jungles, deserts, and the waters of the Chindwin sea, this collection of true tales describes how six men’s experiences of training for those coveted “wings.” The nervous excitement of that first sortie over enemy territory and flying into the hell of an enemy flak barrage and fighters is told from original research from flying log books, diaries, and family archives. Some of the brave characters revealed in this book get home safely but some are shot down and experienced hardship, adventures, and dangers that are the stuff of nightmares. Seventy years on, and these brushes with death are, by any measure, hair-raising adventures that turned adolescence.

Contributor Bio
Alastair Goodrum has held a passion for aviation ever since being taken as a small boy to the 1954 Farnborough Air Show. He spent his career in telecommunications then ran his own company. He held a commission in the RAFVR(T) from 1968 to 1975, is an occasional radio broadcaster, and presents illustrated talks on his pet subject. He has previously written Balloons, Bleriots & Barnstormers: 200 years of Flying For Fun; Dying To Fly: The Human Cost Of Military Flying for The History Press and two earlier books on aviation history. He lives in Spalding, Lincolnshire.

Vintage Champagne on the Edge of Space
The Supersonic World of a Concorde Stewardess
Sally Armstrong

Summary
The inside story of working on Concorde and flying in the supersonic age of travel

In the era of Concorde, flying aboard this iconic aircraft was akin to being part of an elite club. Sally Armstrong recounts her experiences as a stewardess flying with the rich and famous, meeting superstars and royals, and ensuring their memories of flying on these journeys were as special as they could be. Flying at the edge of space and seeing the curvature of the earth was no ordinary working environment. Flying to exotic locations on various charters was also a normal part of the job. Sally also looks back to the beginnings of Concorde development and the story of how it came to end, and offers her perspective into the Air France crash in 2001. Now consigned to the history books of aviation, Concorde will always be a much-beloved aircraft.

Contributor Bio
Sally Armstrong flew with the Concorde fleet for eight years. She has written several novels including Racers.
Concorde: A Designer’s Life
Ted Talbot

Summary
The little-known, very eventful, and sometimes hilarious history surrounding the development of the Concorde

Much has been written about the Concorde itself, but relatively little about the people who designed it. This book is partly an autobiography and encompasses some of the team, several technicalities, and a good measure of the lighter side of the job, especially during the period of actual design. Ted Talbot, who began his career at British Aircraft Corporation as an aerodynamicist and became chief design engineer, has combined the technical narrative with personal and family reminiscences to remind the reader that engineers have a life too. The path to Mach 2 was bumpy, with threats of cancellation and opposition from the U.S. and the Russians, but this generally indicated to the Concorde team that they were on the right path.

Contributor Bio
Ted Talbot began working at Bristol Aeroplane Company as an aerodynamicist, working up to chief design engineer. He worked on major projects from Concorde to Airbus, and is now retired.

From Lysander to Lightning
Teddy Petter, Aircraft Designer
Glyn Davies

Summary
The Lysander, Canberra, Lightning, and Folland Gnat are massive names in the world of aviation, but not so their designer, “Teddy” Petter. Only three aspects bound together these top-class aircraft: they were each radical, all successful in Britain and overseas, and were all born of the genius of Teddy Petter. This book tells the story of Petter’s life and family, from his ability to inspire loyalty in his teams, to his tendencies, to his eccentricities, right down to his retirement to a religious commune in France. Here Davies not only explores his life, but also expands on the nature of his remarkable aircraft, and why they were so legendary.

Contributor Bio
Glyn Davies is a former head of the department of aeronautics and Pro-Rector of the Imperial College in London.
The Wright Brothers Story
Mike Roussell

Summary
The brothers Wilbur and Orville Wright were fascinated by human flight. Their first powered airplane, "The Wright Flyer," was tested at Kitty Hawk in 1903. Wilbur’s first flight was on December 14, 1903 but stalled and crashed. Three days later, after repairs, Orville flew to 540 feet and landed safely after 12 seconds: the first powered flight in aviation history. Fearing competition, the brothers declined to demonstrate for the US Army, traveling to France in 1908 to prove their aircraft to be far superior to their European competitors. A tragedy soon followed when a passenger died in a crash, but the brothers persevered, working together until in 1912 when Wilbur died from typhoid. Orville sold the Wright Company in 1915, devoting his time to research until he died at the age of 76.

Contributor Bio
Mike Roussell has previously written Joe Smith: Spitfire’s Forgotten Designer, as well as co-authoring Shipwrecks of the Cunard Line and The Union Castle Line. He is an active supporter of Solent Sky Aviation Museum.

Women with Wings
Female Flyers in Fact and Fiction
Mary Cadogan

Summary
Women with Wings is a perceptive and highly entertaining celebration of the achievements of female flyers from eighteenth-century balloonists to today’s astronauts.

For decades female aviators had to defy social prejudices despite having achieved remarkable feats of skill and endurance. From 1910, women pilots in America performed death-defying stunts, and in England during the 1920s, a clutch of aristocratic flyers were flipping from continent to continent in their private planes. By the 1930s women had produced an abundance of record-makers—Amy Johnson, Amelia Earhart, Jean Batten and Beryl Markham among them. The Second World War recruited British and American women to ferry fighters and bombers from factories and airfields, and produced some outstanding pilots from Germany and Russia. Post-war developments included long-distance record flights and the growth of opportunity in commercial and military flight and in space exploration.

As well as charting women’s progress in aviation, Women with Wings considers fictional images of female flyers in comic-strips, magazines, books—from g...
The Flight Attendant's Shoe
Prudence Black

Summary
Stiletto heels, miniskirts, bobbed wigs, shiny new technology, and exotic locations were all part of the cosmopolitan lifestyle of flight hostesses captured in this story of Australia’s Qantas airline uniforms as well as those of other airlines. Exploring the Australian fashion industry and the range of designs created by the likes of Emilio Pucci and Yves Saint Laurent for flight crews—from khaki military style to the Indigenous boomerang print—this book is as much about the etiquette and protocol as it is about the fashion. Stitching together social and industrial history, this is a celebration of an era when flying was truly glamorous.

Contributor Bio
Prudence Black is an honorary associate professor in gender and cultural studies at the University of Sydney. She is a former curator and researcher for exhibitions about fashion, design, and Indigenous culture at the Powerhouse Museum and the Australian Museum. She has also broadcast on local ABC and national radio about fashion and contemporary design.

Better by Design
Shaping the British Airways Brand
Paul Jarvis, Keith Williams

Summary
Airlines are competitive and complex businesses and great airlines don’t just happen. In British Airways’ case it has been a long journey – in fact, it has been many millions of journeys of customer expectations, experiences and emotions, connected by tradition, innovation and service. From advertising to airports, from first impressions to final destination, every detail informs and shapes the customer experience and shapes those journeys. Using an incredible wealth of material from the British Airways archive, curator Paul Jarvis takes us through the decades from the 1940s to the present, exploring the evolution of advertising, interiors, on-board experience and crew uniform fashions, and how these have come together to shape not only the internationally renowned British Airways brand but the way we view commercial aviation.

Contributor Bio
Paul Jarvis was the Assistant Company Secretary at British Airways between 1992 and 2003. Retiring in 2003 he volunteered for the honorary role as curator of the British Airways Heritage Collection. The role was to safeguard and preserve the Collection as a national resource and to develop its potential as a source of heritage information and knowledge to support British Airways’ business. Paul worked for nearly 50 years in various managerial roles at British Airways since joining BOAC, a predecessor company of British Airways, as a clerk on 6 June 1966. Paul wrote four published books about British Airways history. He died in 2018.
Aviation Landmarks
Peter B. Gunn

Summary
In this book Peter Gunn brings together many aspects of aviation history in the two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, chronicled by place-name in alphabetical order. Subjects include airfields, war graves and memorials but also the less obvious aeronautical connections in, for example, country houses, churches, pubs, buildings, streets, and the local stories linked with them. The narrative incorporates descriptions with illustrations and OS grid references and a full index. These counties are bursting with aviation history, having played key roles across two world wars, and this detailed guide will delight both interested locals and aviation enthusiasts.

Model Planes
Aerofoils and Wings
Martyn Pressnell

Summary
A guide to the aerodynamic principles of flying model planes

Model flying is a skillful and diverse hobby and a recognized international sport. The broad principles of flight as applied in full-size aviation are equally important to flying models, but are not always recognized or understood by aeromodelers. This book explains the aerodynamic principles of the "aerofoil" and the way that wings produce lift, which is essential to establishing flight. It includes 48 sheets of aerofoils, drawn for the direct use of aeromodelers, and a detailed method of plotting these on a home computer is given, using Excel or a similar platform. Written by a distinguished aerospace engineer with a passion for modeling, this comprehensive volume is perfect for enthusiastic aeromodelers looking to hone their craft.

Contributor Bio
Martyn Pressnell is a former model designer and former airframe structures engineer.
British Airways
100 Years of Aviation Posters
Paul Jarvis

Stunning posters that chart the development and romance of air travel. In association with British Airways.

Summary
This collection of 200 posters from the archives of British Airways provides a stunning visual history of air travel from the earliest days to the present. Airline posters often evoked the glamour of air travel at a time when it was a novelty and the height of sophistication. In more recent years the very best creative talents of marketers and designers have been employed to produce some memorable modern artwork. This richly illustrated collection is a must for anyone interested in aviation and anyone who appreciates design.

Contributor Bio
Paul Jarvis was the Assistant Company Secretary at British Airways between 1992 and 2003. Retiring in 2003 he volunteered for the honorary role as curator of the British Airways Heritage Collection. The role was to safeguard and preserve the Collection as a national resource and to develop its potential as a source of heritage information and knowledge to support British Airways’ business. Paul worked for nearly 50 years in various managerial roles at British Airways after joining BOAC, a predecessor company of British Airways, as a clerk on 6 June 1966. Paul wrote four published books about British Airways history. He died in 2018.

Collins Elt Readers — Amazing Aviators (Level 2)
F.H. Cornish, Fiona MacKenzie

Summary
The inspiring stories of 5 people who changed history.
Air Disaster Canberra
The Plane Crash That Destroyed a Government
Andrew Tink

Summary
Telling an engrossing and dramatic tale of a little-known aspect of Australia’s political history, this book investigates the details of the August 1940 crash of a Hudson bomber—the A16-97—that killed three Australian cabinet ministers. The plane crashed into a ridge near Canberra and, in the ghastly inferno, the nation lost its key war leaders. Over the next 12 months, it became clear that the passing of Geoffrey Street, Sir Henry Gullett, and James Fairbairn had destabilized Robert Menzies’ wartime government. As a direct but delayed consequence, John Curtin—widely regarded as one of the country’s greatest wartime statesmen—became prime minister in October 1941. This book also controversially examines whether Air Minister Fairbairn, rather than the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) pilot Bob Hitchcock, had been at the controls.

Contributor Bio
Andrew Tink has served as shadow attorney general and shadow Liberal leader of the House in the New South Wales Parliament. He is the author of William Charles Wentworth: Australia’s Greatest Native Son, which won “The Nib” CAL Waverley Award for Literature and Lord Sydney: The Life and Times of Tommy Townshend.

One of the Few
A Story of Personal Challenge Through the Battle of Britain and Beyond
Johnny Kent

Summary
Group Captain Johnny Kent joined the RAF in the 1930s and went on to become the leader of one of the most successful fighter squadrons of World War II. His skillful leadership helped the famous 303 Squadron to play such a decisive part in the Battle of Britain, and won him the highest Polish military award, the Virtuti Militari. This is Captain Kent's story of his life in the RAF, from his struggles as a boy in the wilds of Canada to get into the air, through his experiences as a test pilot in Farnborough and his constant efforts to fly wherever the action was. It is a story of triumphant achievement in combat, and of a man whose air force career certainly picked him out as "One of the Few."

Contributor Bio
Johnny Kent the youngest licensed pilot in Canada when he was 17 years old. He was offered an RAF commission in the 1930s, published his memoirs in 1971, and died in 1985.
The Royal Flying Corps 1914-1918
Peter G. Cooksley

Wings of War
Personal Recollections of the Air War 1939-45
Martin W. Bowman

Summary
Of the 7,953 Bomber Command aircraft lost on night operations during World War II, an estimated 5,833 fell victim to Luftwaffe night fighters. In this detailed re-enactment of the air war over Western Europe and the raids flown by the men of RAF Bomber Command, the author has pieced together official data and the words and memories of the pilots and air crew who took part in 15 chapters detailing many unique experiences during the night bombing raids that were hurled against Hitler’s war machine. They span the period between November 1939 and 1945 and the stories include The First 1,000 Bomber Raid; Mine Laying in Danzig Bay; Warriors For The Working Day and Twelve Lancasters went for Augsburg. These truly epic stories are an appropriate epitaph to the men of RAF Bomber Command.

Contributor Bio
Martin W. Bowman is the author of more than 80 books on military and commercial aviation, and is a frequent contributor of photographs and articles for Flight International, Rolls-Royce Magazine, and Aeroplane Monthly. In 1999 he was appointed an official researcher for DERA.
Project Apollo
The Moon Odyssey Explained
Norman Ferguson

A miscellany of facts, figures and stories from the Apollo mission programme, representing the furthest humankind has ever travelled

Summary
The Apollo missions to the Moon are some of the most successful and well-remembered manned spaceflights that NASA has ever accomplished, taking place in the heyday of space travel. Indeed, the program was the only one to achieve the ultimate goal of placing humankind on the Moon, which it did no less than six times between 1969 and 1972. Here aviation author Norman Ferguson reveals fascinating facts and figures, and recounts amazing stories about the astronauts, their spacecraft and their missions whose achievements have never been surpassed.

Contributor Bio
Norman Ferguson is the author of *From Airbus to Zeppelin* and *The Little Book of Aviation*, and he has also written comedy for BBC radio and BBC and Channel 4 television.

3 Commando Brigade: Helmand Assault
Ewen Southby-Tailyour

Summary
When the Royal Marines Commandos returned to a chaotic Helmand in the winter of 2008, they realized that to stand any chance of success they would need to pursue an increasingly determined Taliban harder than ever before. This time they were going to hunt them down from the air. With the support of Chinooks, Apaches, Lynx, Sea Kings, and Harriers, the Commandos became a deadly mobile unit, able to swoop at a moment’s notice into the most hostile territory. From huge operations like the grueling Red Dagger, when 3 Commando Brigade fought in Somme-like mud to successfully clear the area around the capital of Helmand, Lashkar Gar, of encroaching enemy forces, to the daily acts of unsupported, close-quarters 360-degree combat and the breath-taking, rapid helicopter night assaults behind enemy lines—this was kind of battle that brought Commando qualities to the fore. An ex-Marine Lieutenant Colonel brings unparalleled access to the troops, a soldier’s understanding of the conflict, and a visceral sense of the combat experience. This is the real war in Helmand as told to him by a hand-pick...

Contributor Bio
Ewen Southby-Tailyour is a military historian, a retired Royal Marines Lieutenant Colonel, and the author of *Jane's Special Forces Recognition Guide*. As a trusted insider he has had full access to the men who make up 3 Commando Brigade.
Chased by the Sun
The Australians in Bomber Command in World War II
Hank Nelson

Summary
The remarkable story of more than 4000 Australian airmen who died over the skies of Europe while serving with the British Bomber Command in World War II is explored in this fascinating military history. Many of these airmen remain forgotten in their homeland—despite their selfless bravery contributing to the defeat of the Nazi regime. This book brings to light the experiences of Australians who served with the British bomber squadrons and their extraordinary contributions to the Allied war effort.

Contributor Bio
Hank Nelson is professor emeritus in Pacific and Asian history at Australian National University. He is the author of Black White & Gold, Papua New Guinea, Prisoners of War, Taim Bilong Masta, and With Its Hat about Its Ears and has been involved in film and radio documentaries.

Lancaster Men
The Aussie Heroes of Bomber Command
Peter Rees

Summary
More than 10,000 Australians served with Bomber Command, a highly trained band of elite flyers who undertook some of the most dangerous operations of World War II. They flew raid after raid over France and Germany knowing that the odds were against them. Stretched to breaking point, nearly 3500 died in the air. Their bravery in extreme circumstances has barely been recognized. Peter Rees traces the extraordinary achievements of these young aviators. He tells their hair-raising stories of battle action and life on the ground. And he recounts how, when they returned to Australia, they were greeted as Jap dodgers and accused of "hiding in England while we were doing it tough." Exciting, compelling, and full of life, Lancaster Men is a powerful tribute to these forgotten Australian heroes of World War II.

Contributor Bio
Peter Rees was a journalist for more than 40 years, working as federal political correspondent for the Melbourne Sun, the Sunday Telegraph, and the West Australian. He is the author of Anzac Girls, The Boy from Boree Creek, Desert Boys, Killing Juanita, and Tim Fischer's Outback Heroes.
Whispering Death
Australian Airmen in the Pacific War
Mark Johnston

Summary
In *Whispering Death*, Mark Johnston, one of Australia's leading experts on World War II, explains vividly how more than 130,000 Australian airmen fought Japan from the Pacific War's first hours in 1941 to its last in 1945. They clashed over a vast area, from India to Noumea, Bass Strait to the Philippines. Merely flying over that region's boundless oceans and wild weather was dangerous enough for Australia's flyers, but their formidable enemies made it much more perilous. In their Zero fighters and Betty bombers they were initially too numerous, experienced and well-armed for the few Australians who opposed them in Malaya, the Northern Territory, and New Guinea. February 1942 brought the RAAF its darkest hour: the bombing of Darwin, which no Australian fighter planes contested. But in the months following, Australian aircrew won or contributed to great aerial victories in the air over Port Moresby, Milne Bay, the Papuan beachheads and the Bismarck Sea. The American air force grew to dominate both the Japanese and their Australian ally, but until war's end Australian aircrew continued ...

Contributor Bio
Mark Johnston is one of Australia's leading military historians. His eight books include *That Magnificent 9th* and *The Silent 7th*.

1939 the Second World War in the Air in Photographs
L. Archard

Summary
On 1 September 1939, Germany invaded Poland. With political agreements in place to come to Poland's aid, Britain and France both declared war on Germany within two days. It was the start of a conflict that would erupt over every continent; it saw the deaths of tens of millions of people, much of central Europe destroyed, the development of jets, intercontinental missiles, computers and the Atomic Bomb. 1939 saw the first display of the German Blitzkrieg in Poland, along with the deployment of RAF squadrons to France and the first bombing raids over both Germany and the UK. There had long been omens to show the ways that war in the air would develop, with the Germans honing their Blitzkrieg tactics in the Spanish Civil War and the Japanese bombing civilian populations in China. This book is the first in a series covering the Second World War in the air by year.
**Blade Slap**  
*A Year with the RAF Chinook Display Team*  
Tom Mercer

Explore a highly illustrated fascinating insider's look at the the award-winning RAF Chinook display team.

**Summary**  
Have you ever wondered what it takes to fly the RAF’s tandem-rotor heavy-lift helicopter? Ever thought about the amount of work that goes into preparing for the annual airshow display season? Throughout 2018, Tom Mercer has had unprecedented access to the UK Chinook Force and for the first time ever will take you behind the scenes of the Royal Air Force Chinook Display Team. Read all about the work that goes into the display work-up, the all-important Public Display Approval and key moments from across one of the team’s busiest ever airshow seasons. As if that isn’t enough, you’ll get to see what daily life entails on an operational RAF Squadron. A project of this size has never been attempted with a frontline asset before, but thanks to the Royal Air Force, Joint Helicopter Command and RAF Odiham, Tom has been able to capture an insight into the RAF’s centenary year in all its glory. Some of the proceeds from this book will be donated to the RAF 100 appeal.

**Contributor Bio**  
**Tom Mercer** is an aviation photographer and journalist.

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**Blitzkrieg**  
*The Second World War in Colour*  
Campbell McCutcheon

Colour photography was a rare thing in the 1930s. Various systems of colour photography had been tried, including Dufaycolour and Kodachrome but the processes were time consuming and difficult to process. The Germans had developed Agfacolor, which was state of the art for the time and easily processed with basic chemicals and equipment in rudimentary darkrooms close to the front. Sending propaganda units with the troops, and war correspondents armed with colour film and Leica cameras, the photographs captured the horror of war in colour for the first time. Here, over 70 colour and 70 black and white images tell the story of the Blitzkrieg as it happened, with immediacy that only action shots can portray.

**Contributor Bio**  
Campbell McCutcheon has had a life-long interest in the Olympic-class vessels and naval shipping. He has written extensively on the subject along with some Military History and Bradshaw’s Railway titles for Amberley. He lives in Gloucestershire, but he was born within sight and sound of the water and has been interested in ships from a young age.
**Breaking the Military Covenant**

*Why Our Servicemen Are Dying Unnecessarily*

David Hill

How the MoD has broken the covenant with the military over the past 25 years; an informal agreement that is underpinned by a promise to provide 'adequate safeguards'.

**Summary**

This book analyzes the events and contributory factors that led to 70 avoidable deaths in accidents where the blame can be placed squarely on the desks of the MoD and sometimes BAE Systems and others. It demonstrates that mandated regulations were suborned, ministers misled, and investigations lied to. It reveals that junior staff were blamed, despite having identified the failings and tried to correct them. It explains the background to the MoD's policy of "savings at the expense of safety" that led to the dismantling of its Safety Management System. In 1994, 25 Northern Ireland intelligence experts and 4 crew of Chinook ZDS76 were killed in a crash at the Mull of Kintyre. In 2003, Sea Kings XVI50 and XV704 collided in the northern Arabian Gulf just two days after the invasion of Iraq, killing six British servicemen and one American. In January 2005 Hercules XV179 was shot down over Iraq, killing 10. The following year, 14 died when Nimrod XV230 exploded during refueling over Kandahar. In every case (and in others included here), investigations were muddied by half-truths and the ine...

**Contributor Bio**

David Hill is a retired aeronautical engineer, spending much of his career as an avionics/aircraft program manager in the MoD. He managed over 130 programs, including RAF Nimrod Electronic Intelligence during Gulf War 1, and the RN Sea King ASaC Mk7 program. He provided evidence during the Nimrod XV230 and Hercules XV179 Inquests, the former leading directly to the restructuring of MoD's airworthiness system. He produced a report for the bereaved families of the 1994 Chinook crash. He is the author of *Their Greatest Disgrace: The Campaign to clear the Chinook ZD576 Pilots*.

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**Duxford 1940**

*A Battle of Britain Base at War*

Dilip Sarkar

**Summary**

The Imperial War Museum site at Duxford is rightly recognised as the premier aviation museum in Europe, hosting exciting air shows and where the evocative sight and sound of an airborne Spitfire can be experienced most days. Back in the dark days of 1940, however, when Britain alone defied Nazi Germany, Duxford was a crucial Sector Station in Fighter Command's front line. Flying Hurricanes and Spitfires, Allied fighter pilots scrambled from Duxford's grass runway time and time again to engage the enemy. Indeed, from here that legendary airman Douglas Bader frequently sortied forth to drive back the Luftwaffe that fateful summer, alongside other 'aces' such as Brian Lane, George 'Grumpy' Unwin, and Alan 'Ace' Haines. Duxford's Station Commander was the flamboyant Group Captain 'Woody' Woodhall, who doubled as the fighter controller; the introduction to this book features his hitherto unpublished memoir on the Battle of Britain period, leading the reader perfectly into this unique collection of extremely rare photographs presented by well-known aviation historian Dilip Sarkar. Most pho...

**Contributor Bio**

Dilip Sarkar has been fascinated by the Battle of Britain since childhood, he remains both moved and inspired by the story of Churchill's fabled Few, those young airmen who stood between freedom and a Britain dominated by Nazi Germany. Since the 1970s he has met and interviewed more Battle of Britain pilots than any other historian. He has researched the subject thoroughly and has published over thirty books, titles which include the only biographical works formally endorsed by the families of both Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader and Air Vice-Marshall Johnnie Johnson. In 2003, Dilip was made an MBE for services to aviation history, and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society in 2006. He lives in Worcester. For more information please see www.dilipsarkarmbe.co.uk.
**Fighter Pilot**
The Life of Battle of Britain Ace Bob Doe

Helen Doe

**Summary**

‘I saw a mass of ME 109s and went up to attack. I looked behind and found three on each side diving to attack me.’ Bob Doe, Combat Report 16 August 1940

In June 1940, at the age of twenty, Bob Doe believed himself to be the worst pilot in his squadron. Just three months later he was a highly decorated hero of the Battle of Britain. This is the story of the pilot who, in his own estimation, was not promising material for a fighter pilot. He left school at fourteen and had none of the qualifications or background of his fellow officers, but he found his place in the Battle of Britain, shooting down fourteen enemy aircraft and sharing in two others. He became the third-highest-scoring pilot of the Battle, and was unusual in achieving these victories in both Spitfires and Hurricanes. This biography, written by his daughter, a noted professional historian, tells the story of Bob’s remarkable career, including his time in Burma leading an Indian Air Force squadron against the Japanese. He was a modest man who spoke for many veterans when he asked that they should not be considered as heroes ...

**Contributor Bio**

Helen Doe is a well-known maritime historian who specialises in the nineteenth century. She gained her PhD at the University of Exeter, where she is a Fellow. Her other books include Enterprising Women in Shipping in the Nineteenth Century and she was a major contributor and co-editor of the award-winning The Maritime History of Cornwall. She is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, a trustee of the British Commission for Maritime History and a trustee of the ss Great Britain.

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**How the Spitfire Won the Battle of Britain**

Dilip Sarkar

**Summary**

Although there were many more Hawker Hurricanes than Supermarine Spitfires engaged in the epic conflict fought over southern England in the summer of 1940, the public’s imagination was captured by the shapely and charismatic Spitfire. According to legend, however, the Hurricane executed far greater damage on the enemy than all other defenses combined, and was therefore the unsung hero of our ‘Finest Hour’. New research, analysed and interpreted by Dilip Sarkar however, confirms that the Spitfire, although less in number, was in fact supreme, and destroyed an equal number of enemy machines to the more numerous Hurricane force. Featuring interviews with pilots who flew to war in both Spitfires and Hurricanes, and following a detailed analysis of combat reports and casualty records, Dilip Sarkar shatters the myth surrounding the Hurricane and argues that the Battle of Britain could have been won by Spitfires, but not Hurricanes, alone. A controversial thesis likely to provoke lively debate, the evidence presented by this retired police detective and expert aviation historian is nonethel...

**Contributor Bio**

Dilip Sarkar has been fascinated by the Battle of Britain since childhood, he remains both moved and inspired by the story of Churchill’s fabled Few, those young airmen who stood between freedom and a Britain dominated by Nazi Germany. Since the 1970s he has met and interviewed more Battle of Britain pilots than any other historian. He has researched the subject thoroughly and has published over thirty books, titles which include the only biographical works formally endorsed by the families of both Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader and Air Vice-Marshall Johnnie Johnson. In 2003, Dilip was made an MBE for services to aviation history, and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society in 2006. He lives in Worcester. For more information please see www.dilipsarkarmbe.co.uk.
How to Fly a Battle of Britain Fighter
Spitfire, Messerschmitt, Hurricane
Campbell McCutcheon

Summary
Find out how a pilot was instructed in flying a Battle of Britain fighter, using the original Pilot's Notes for the Supermarine Spitfire and Hawker Hurricane, as well as Air Ministry flying notes on captured Messerschmitt Bf 109s. See how each compares, view their cockpits and learn how they fly. All three aircraft handled superbly, and the Pilot's Notes help give an idea of what it was like to fly in a real Second World War fighter aircraft. The aircraft were designed and first flew within months of each other, and all served throughout the war. More than 300 pilots on the Eastern Front shot down over 100 Soviet aircraft, each using Messerschmitt Bf 109s, while British aces in the Spitfire and Hurricane included Douglas Bader, Roland Beaumont, Neville Duke and Richard Hillary.

Contributor Bio
Campbell McCutcheon has had a life-long interest in the Olympic-class vessels and naval shipping. He has written extensively on the subject along with some Military History and Bradshaw's Railway titles for Amberley. He lives in Gloucestershire, but he was born within sight and sound of the water and has been interested in ships from a young age.

Luftwaffe The Second World War in Colour
John Christopher

Summary
This superb collection of wartime colour photographs brings the Luftwaffe – its aircraft and personnel – to life in a dramatically vivid way. Colour photography was still a rare thing in the 1930s and 1940s. Various systems had been tried, but it was the Germans who had the greatest success with their Agfacolor process. This meant that colour images could be produced with basic darkroom equipment, even close to the action. As a result the members of the Propaganda Kompanie, armed with Leica cameras and the new Agfacolor film, were able to capture aspects of the Luftwaffe's operations in a way never seen before. The resulting pictures were published in a number of magazines, including the Luftwaffe's Der Adler, as well as in books aimed at the home front audience.

Contributor Bio
John Christopher has written and edited a number of books on Engineering, Military History and Railway and Road Transport, specializing in the life and works of Isambard Kingdom Brunel and being the series editor for Amberley's Bradshaw's Guides series. He has also appeared in Michael Portillo's Great British Railway Journeys television series. In between writing books, he is a balloon pilot and Land Rover fan. He lives in Gloucestershire.
Radar
Britain's Shield and the Defeat of the Luftwaffe
David Zimmerman

Summary
The individual bravery and skill of the Battle of Britain pilots and the fighting qualities of their aircraft would have been in vain if they had not been part of a highly complex and sophisticated air defence system based on radar. The development of the system in just five years is one of the most remarkable scientific and technological accomplishments of the twentieth century. The creation of the radar defences has been somewhat overlooked over the years. Many of the studies of radar have focused on the development of the technology, with little attention given to the creation of the much larger system for integrating radar into the nation's air defences. This work relates the development of radar with the diplomatic and air policy concerns of the period. David Zimmerman shows how a small group of scientists, engineers, airmen and politicians accomplished this technological miracle. He also reappraises Churchill's role, showing that his influence was more often than not counter-productive to the development of effective air defences.

Contributor Bio
David Zimmerman is Professor of Military History at the University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. He is an expert in the history of science, technology and war, the history of radar, anti-submarine warfare, the Royal Canadian Navy, and the rescue of refugee academics from Germany. His books include: Top Secret Exchange: The Tizard Mission and the Scientific War, and The Great Naval Battle of Ottawa.

RAF Tempsford
Churchill's Most Secret Airfield
Bernard O'Connor

Summary
Designed by illusionist Jasper Maskelyne, RAF Tempsford was constructed to give overflying enemy aircraft the impression it was disused. Nothing could be further from the truth - just after dusk on moonlit nights either side of the full moon, planes from the 138 and 161 Squadrons would take off on top secret missions to the heart of the war-torn Continent. They had to fly low and without lights in order to identify drop zones and deliver the supplies and secret agents that would help the resistance forces liberate Europe. But despite the attention of Churchill and George VI, the airfield's secrets have long remained an untold chapter in the story of the war. Based on over a decade's extensive research, RAF Tempsford: Churchill's Most Secret Airfield is filled with intrigue, suspense, heartbreak, and humour. It is a fascinating account of a deadly serious business.

Contributor Bio
Bernard O'Connor has been a teacher for almost forty years and is an author that specialises in the history of Britain's wartime espionage. His website is www.bernardoconnor.org.uk. He lives on the Bedfordshire/Cambridgeshire border.
School of Aces
The RAF Training School that Won the Battle of Britain
Alastair Goodrum

This is the fascinating true story of RAF Sutton Bridge. Between 1926 and 1946, the base saw the development and implementation of a training system that turned inexperienced pilots into Top Guns. 525 graduates and staff fought with The Few to win the Battle of Britain.

Summary
This is the fascinating true story behind one of the key reasons that RAF Fighter Command saw such success in the Second World War and emerged victorious from the Battle of Britain – the incredible training school that transformed young men from inexperienced pilots into some of the finest airmen in the world. From peacetime Armament Practice Camp, to fighter Operational Training Unit, to Central Gunnery School, this is the story of how, between 1926 and 1946, the RAF developed and implemented a world-beating training system. This allowed the RAF to have total faith in the men tasked with combatting the Nazi threat from the air, and School of Aces tells the astonishing story of the station through a wealth of individual stories – with famous names, drama, courage and pathos a-plenty – recalling how pilots, air gunners and ground crew came to be at RAF Sutton Bridge, what life was like for them there and what happened to them afterwards. Prior to and during the Battles of France and Britain, RAF Sutton Bridge played a vital role in the British success by creating, in a remarkably short ...

Contributor Bio
Alastair Goodrum is retired. He has written aviation history articles and five books since 1984, and has given illustrated talks to a variety of clubs for more than 20 years.

The Battle of Britain
An Air Ministry Account of the Great Days from 8 August-31 October 1940
Ministry of Information

Summary
A fabulous slice of wartime nostalgia, a facsimile edition of the propaganda booklet issued following victory in the Battle of Britain. First published in 1941, The Battle of Britain was a propaganda booklet issued by the Ministry of Information to capitalize on the success of the RAF in defeating the Luftwaffe. An amazing period piece, hundreds of thousands of copies were printed and sold for 6d and it became one of the year’s best selling books. It is the first book to embed in the public imagination the heroics of ‘The Few’.
**The Crusader and Corsair**

Martyn Chorlton

A lavishly illustrated celebration of two icons of the air, the Vought F-8 Crusader and A-7 Corsair II.

**Summary**

The Vought F-8 Crusader was a classic post-war aircraft; loved by its pilots, this big machine was nicknamed "The Last of the Gunfighters" because of its primary armament of four 20 mm Colt cannons. The F-8 entered service with the US Navy in 1957 and remained as one of its front line fighters until 1976, having served with distinction during the Vietnam War. Reconnaissance versions served on until 1987, while it was the French Navy who doggedly held onto their F-8s until the arrival of the Rafale in 2000. The A-7 Corsair II came about as a replacement for another US Navy aircraft, the A-4 Skyhawk, and in an effort to cut down on research and development costs, the new light attack aircraft used the same components as the F-8. Much shorter than its older sibling, the A-7 entered service in 1967 and was immediately pressed into service alongside the F-8 in Vietnam with both the US Navy and later with the USAF. Retired by ANG in 1991, the A-7 remained operational until 2014 with the Greek Air Force.

**Contributor Bio**

Martyn Chorlton is an ex-RAF photographer and editor of Military Modelling magazine.

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**The Defeat of the Luftwaffe**

The Eastern Front 1941-45, A Strategy for Disaster

Jonathan Trigg

**Summary**

In 1939 and 1940 the Nazi blitzkrieg crushed Poland and the Low Countries and France. This was a new type of warfare with air and ground forces working hand-in-glove and sweeping away all resistance. On the ground the new panzer divisions symbolised this combat revolution, and in the air its symbol was the all-conquering Luftwaffe with its fleets of Stuka dive bombers. When Hitler looked further east in 1941, the Luftwaffe turned with him, spearheading the largest invasion in world history as the Wehrmacht launched Operation Barbarossa to annihilate Stalin's Soviet Union. Within weeks they had destroyed thousands of Red Air Force planes and ruled the skies. Yet less than four years later that same Red Air Force was flying unopposed over Hitler's burning Reich Chancellery in Berlin and his much-vaunted Luftwaffe lay in utter ruins. How did this happen? Using original research and exceptional illustrations, including photos of planes from both sides, this book explains how the Nazi Luftwaffe’s certain victory in the east was transformed into ashes through incompetence, misjudgement and h...

**Contributor Bio**

Having passed out from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Jonathan Trigg served as an infantry officer in the Royal Anglian Regiment, completing tours in Northern Ireland and Bosnia, as well as in the Gulf. After working in the City, he now has his own business training the long-term unemployed to get them into work. His previous books include Death on the Don: The Destruction of Germany's Allies on the Eastern Front.
The F-14 Tomcat
Terry C. Treadwell

With a wealth of illustrations, Terry Treadwell tells the story of this famous aircraft - The F-14 Tomcat.

Summary
The ideas behind the Grumman F-14 Tomcat first began to take shape back in the late 1950s when it was discovered that the Soviet Union was quickly developing an increasingly accurate airborne missile system that would pose a major threat to the U.S. Navy’s warships. Entering service in 1974 with VF-1 and VF-2 on USS Enterprise, the F-14 was one of the most sophisticated, reliable and deadly aircraft of its day. In this book, author Terry Treadwell looks at the development and evolution of the F-14 and its subsequent operational history with the U.S. Navy, including encounters with Soviet-made Libyan MiG fighters over the Mediterranean as well as the 1991 Gulf War, the war in Afghanistan and the 2003 Iraq war. The book also looks at the sale of the F-14 to the Shah of Iran. Including more than 100 photos covering the F-14 from development through to the final stages of its career, this book will give the reader an insight into one of the most iconic aircraft of its day.

Contributor Bio
Terry C. Treadwell is the author of Strike from Beneath the Sea.

The Lancaster
Gordon A. A. Wilson, Martin Keen, Peter Mansbridge

Summary
The Avro Lancaster took the RAF’s bombing campaign right to the heart of Nazi Germany, night after night, despite suffering appalling losses. The unique airframe, with one continuous bomb bay and four powerful Rolls-Royce Merlin engines, allowed the Lancaster to carry a variety of bomb loads. Without the Lancaster, RAF Bomber Command’s offensive against Germany would not have had the devastating and controversial impact that it achieved. The speed, agility and bomb-carrying capacity of this bomber allowed it to destroy targets ranging from hardened-concrete submarine pens and reservoir dams to railway marshalling yards and factories producing vital military hardware. This book is both the story of the Lancaster and that of its seven-man crews: pilot, bomb aimer/nose gunner, wireless operator, flight engineer, navigator and mid-upper and rear gunners. Illustrated with over 250 photographs, including several wartime images as well and many in full colour, it is also the history of the four most complete surviving airframes: the only two flying Lancasters in the world (PA474 and FM213) a...

Contributor Bio
Gordon A. A. Wilson is a retired military and commercial pilot. He flew with the Canadian air forces 414 Electronic Warfare Squadron, flying target aircraft on secret missions to test the defences of North America and as a test pilot. He subsequently flew for thirty years for a major airline and since retiring has worked as a ground school instructor for Air Canada and as an aviation consultant writing standard operating procedures manuals. His other books include NORAD and the Soviet Nuclear Threat. He lives in British Columbia, Canada. Martin Keen is a professional photographer and runs Silksheen Photography. He is the official photographer for Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre and is also a member of the small team that maintains and operates Lancaster NX611. He lives in the heart of Lincolnshire, just a short distance from the former RAF East Kirkby.
The Lancaster Manual 1943
Gordon A. A. Wilson

Summary
How to fly, navigate, drop bombs and man the turrets of the legendary bomber using the manuals and instructions supplied by the RAF during the Second World War. An amazing array of leaflets, books and manuals were issued by the Air Ministry during the Second World War to aid pilots and crew flying the Lancaster bomber, and here for the first time they are collated into a single book. An introduction is supplied by expert aviation historian (and ex-military pilot) Gordon Wilson. Other sections within include information on the engineering of the Lancaster, the bomber crews, navigation, bomb-aiming, night operations and the famous Dam Buster raids.

Contributor Bio
Gordon A. A. Wilson is a retired military and commercial pilot. He flew with the Canadian air forces 414 Electronic Warfare Squadron, flying target aircraft on secret missions to test the defences of North America and as a test pilot. He subsequently flew for thirty years for a major airline and since retiring has worked as a ground school instructor for Air Canada and as an aviation consultant writing standard operating procedures manuals. His other books include NORAD and the Soviet Nuclear Threat. He lives in British Columbia, Canada.

The Merlin
The Engine That Won the Second World War
Gordon A. A. Wilson

Summary
First ever narrative history of the famous aero engine that powered the Spitfire, Hurricane, Lancaster, Mosquito and Mustang, the aircraft that made the difference between victory and defeat at critical moments in the Second World War - the Battle of Britain and the allied aerial offensive against G...

Contributor Bio
Gordon A. A. Wilson is a retired military and commercial pilot. He flew with the Canadian air forces 414 Electronic Warfare Squadron. He subsequently flew for 30 years for a major airline and worked as a ground school instructor for Air Canada and as an aviation consultant writing standard operating procedures manuals. His other books include NORAD and the Soviet Nuclear Threat. He lives in British Columbia, Canada.
The Spitfire Manual 1940
Dilip Sarkar

How to fly the legendary fighter plane in combat using the manuals and instructions supplied by the RAF during the Second World War. An amazing array of leaflets, books and manuals were issued by the War Office during the Second World War to aid pilots in flying the Supermarine Spitfire, here for th...

Summary
How to fly the legendary fighter plane in combat using the manuals and instructions supplied by the RAF during the Second World War. An amazing array of leaflets, books and manuals were issued by the War Office during the Second World War to aid pilots in flying the Supermarine Spitfire, here for the first time and using the original 1940s setting, they are collated into a single book. An introduction is supplied by expert aviation historian Dilip Sarkar. Other sections include aircraft recognition, how to act as an RAF officer, bailing out etc.

Contributor Bio
Dilip Sarkar has been fascinated by the Battle of Britain since childhood, he remains both moved and inspired by the story of Churchill's fabled Few, those young airmen who stood between freedom and a Britain dominated by Nazi Germany. Since the 1970s he has met and interviewed more Battle of Britain pilots than any other historian. He has researched the subject thoroughly and has published over thirty books, titles which include the only biographical works formally endorsed by the families of both Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader and Air Vice-Marshal Johnnie Johnson. In 2003, Dilip was made an MBE for services to aviation history, and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society in 2006. He lives in Worcester. For more information please see www.dilpsarkarmbe.co.uk.

Transatlantic Betrayal
Andrew Porter

Summary
The RB211 gas turbine engine was to be the biggest engineering project in Britain, and the world's first three-spool turbofan. It had been developed for the Lockheed L1011 Tristar and finally entered service in 1972. Despite its huge development costs, which pushed Rolls-Royce into bankruptcy, it turned Rolls-Royce into a global company, supplying engines for many thousands of airliners and military aircraft. Despite the development costs, the failure of the company that produced the engine and the problems of its single launch customer (Lockheed), the RB211 proved itself to be a highly exible engine, with a massive potential power range, light weight and ease of maintenance. Andrew Porter tells the story of the RB211, the history of its development and the political and economic factors that saw the company nearly die.

Contributor Bio
Andrew Porter is an aviation journalist. He lives in Lytham St Annes.
**Wings**

**The RAF at War, 1912-2012**  
Patrick Bishop

**Summary**  
The Royal Air Force is synonymous with its heroic achievements in the summer of 1940, when Winston Churchill's 'famous few' held Goering's Luftwaffe at bay in the Battle of Britain, thereby changing the course of the war. For much of the 20th century, warplanes were fixed in the world’s imagination, a symbol of the perils and excitement of the modern era. Aviators have always seemed different to soldiers and sailors—more adventurous and imaginative. Their stories gripped the public and in both wars and air aces dominated each side's propaganda, capturing hearts and dreams. Writing with the verve, passion and the sheer narrative aplomb familiar to many thousands of readers from his bestselling World War II aerial histories, *Fighter Boys* and *Bomber Boys*, Patrick Bishop’s *Wings* is a rich and compelling account of military flying from its heroic early days to the present.

**Contributor Bio**  
*Patrick Bishop* has been a foreign correspondent since 1982, covering numerous wars and conflicts around the world and he has reported from the front line of almost every major war of our era. In the last six years he has emerged as a military historian of the first order with his top-ten bestsellers *Fighter Boys* and *Bomber Boys*, which cast new light on the men who fought in the Battle of Britain and the Strategic Air Campaign against Germany. He is also the author of the much-praised *Battle of Britain* and *3 Para*.

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**The Few**

**Women Who Flew the P-38**  
Larry W. Bledsoe

**Summary**  
When World WAR II started, there was a shortage of pilots. The big question was, "Where are they going to come from?" Aircraft manufacturers were ramping up production capabilities. New fighter planes, bombers, and transports were being built in increasing numbers for the U.S. Military and our Allies. That created a logistics problem – How were they to be delivered from the factory to military bases, ports of embarkation, or overseas? The Ferry Command was created to make these deliveries. Since combat units had priority for military pilots, where were they going to get the ferry pilots they needed? That dilemma opened the door for women pilots. Nancy Love was given the task of creating the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS). More women were needed and Jackie Cochran was given the task of creating the Women's Flying Training Detachment (WFTD). Some of these graduates became ferry pilots for the Ferry Command. These two organizations were then combined to become the now well-known Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). It was the women pilots in the Ferry Command under Nancy Lo...

**Contributor Bio**  
Larry Bledsoe has had a love for airplanes, and admiration for the people who fly them from the time he was a youngster. As a result of his passion for writing and aviation, nearly three hundred of his articles and book reviews have been published since 1989.
**RAF Centenary Experience**

James Holland

**Summary**

*RAF 100* celebrates and commemorates 100 years of the Royal Air Force. With unique access to the RAF's historic archives, James Holland uses photographs and documents to bring the story of the people, planes and missions to life as never before. From its genesis in the horrors of the First World War, when pilots were open to the elements in craft made of little more than wood and fabric, to the infamous air battles of the Second World War, through to the life-saving missions carried out in today's trouble zones, *RAF 100* looks at the men, women and aircraft that are at the heart of this great service.

**Contributor Bio**

James Holland is an historian, writer and broadcaster. The author of a number of best-selling histories including *Battle of Britain* and *Dam Busters*. He has presented - and written - a large number of television programs and series for the BBC, Channel 4, National Geographic, History and Discovery. He is co-founder of the Chalke Valley History Festival and co-founder of WarGen.org, an online Second World War resource site, and presents the *Chalke Valley History Hit* podcast. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he can be found on Twitter and Instagram as @James1940.

**Charlie Chasers**

**History of USAF AC-119**

Larry Elton Fletcher

**Summary**

*Charlie Chasers* tells the amazing story of the AC-119 Shadow gunships and their crews who wreaked havoc on the enemy during the Vietnam War. The fixed-wing aircraft provided close fire support of U.S. and friendly troops with the ability to fire up to 6,000 rounds per minute and deliver it with deadly accuracy. Ground troops came to rely on the AC-119 as dependable aerial defenders of fire support bases, air bases, Special Forces camps, villages, hamlets, and remote outposts. The author, former United States Air Force Captain, Dr. Larry Elton Fletcher, flew 177 combat missions as a pilot in AC-119 Shadow gunships during his tour of duty in Vietnam with the 17th Special Operations Squadron and received numerous medals for his valor.

**Contributor Bio**

Former USAF Captain Dr. Larry Elton Fletcher flew 177 combat missions as a pilot in AC-119 Shadow gunships during his tour of duty in Vietnam from May 1970 to May 1971. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Air Medal with eight clusters. He holds a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia and has penned two novels. He and his wife currently reside in Missouri.
The Spitfire Story
Told By Those Who Designed, Maintained and Flew the Iconic Plane
Jacky Hyams

Published in association with Imperial War Museums, this is a fascinating anthology of first-hand stories from Spitfire heroes and heroines of World War II.

Summary
The Spitfire Story, published in association with Imperial War Museums, is a fascinating anthology of first-hand stories from Spitfire heroes and heroines of the Second World War. The Spitfire is the world’s most iconic aeroplane. Coming into its own during the Battle of Britain, it became famous during the Second World War as the only plane that could match the enemy fighters in the sky. Yet, even today, the history of the Spitfire contains many hitherto hidden or little-known stories of the men and women behind the plane; not only the gifted creators and inventors who brought the Spitfire to life, or the brave fighter pilots from many countries who triumphed in battle, but also the thousands of other people whose lives were affected by their personal connection to it – engineers, ground crew, factory or office workers, and their families. Spitfire Stories recounts the memories and stories of these people, from the birth of the iconic Spitfire in the 1930s to the present day. Among these accounts is the extraordinary tale of the fighter pilot who only discovered, fifty years on, the t...

Contributor Bio
Jacky Hyams has written several nonfiction books, among them The Female Few: Spitfire Heroines of the Air Transport Auxiliary and Bomb Girls: Britain’s Secret Army. She has written for many newspapers and magazines, including the Times, London Evening Standard, Rolling Stone, and Sydney Morning Herald.

Building the Supermarine Spitfire
Speed in the Skies
Mark A. Chambers

Summary
This illuminating history traces the design and development of one of World War II’s most remarkable fighter aircraft. The unique sleek design of the Spitfire was truly a thing of aerodynamic beauty. From unprecedented achievements in winning and setting new world speed records in the great Schneider Trophy Races of the late 1920s and early 1930s to being rolled out for eventual aerial combat in one of the world’s most tumultuous and destructive conflicts, the Supermarine Spitfire served as a game changer. Mark Chambers uses many unpublished illustrations to explore the history of this iconic aircraft.

Contributor Bio
Mark A. Chambers works as a contractor for the NASA Langley Research Center and has won numerous awards for his NASA work. He is the author of Flight Research at NASA Langley Research Center, as well as articles for Aviation Magazine. He lives in Newport News, Virginia.
Hawker Siddeley Harrier  
The World's First Jump Jet  
Mark A. Chambers

Summary
The Harrier took to the skies in December, 1967. The McDonnell Douglas AV-8B Harrier II was the star of the Marine Corps in Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom. This book charts Hawker Aircraft Ltd from Sopwith onwards, considering its future replacement, the Lockheed Martin F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

Contributor Bio
Mark A. Chambers works for the NASA Langley Research Center and lives in Newport News, Virginia.

Lancaster  
Reaping the Whirlwind  
Martin W. Bowman

Summary
Detailing the Lancaster's history from 1942 to 1945, this study brings everything together to tell a concise history of one of the world's most famous aircraft of all time and undoubtedly the finest bomber of World War II. A superlative and unique color section of more than 50 contemporary photographs of the Lancaster is featured, while the text is complemented by more than 150 rare and seldom seen black-and-white images. Well researched and expertly written, this account is a must read to those interested in the Lancaster and aviation history in general. The book also includes many unique and incredible eyewitness accounts of the raids by Lancaster crews, making Lancaster: Reaping the Whirlwind both a gripping and fascinating read.

Contributor Bio
Martin W. Bowman is the author of 150 books. He has also flown in relief missions in Somalia and Bosnia as well as flying in the Lancaster.
Sepecat Jaguar
Almost Extinct
Peter Foster

Summary
The Jaguar was an iconic aircraft to come from Anglo-French collaboration and one of the first to be conceived with a predatory attack and low-level strike capability. Retired before its time, for France in 2005 and for the RAF in 2007, it is still revered both by those that operated it and those that stared in wonder. The end for the Jaguar in the UK was sudden and rushed, however, it survived on other continents. This book is a stunning pictorial tribute to those final days.

Contributor Bio
Peter Foster is the author of Tornado: A History.

Spitfire
Pilots' Stories
Dr Alfred Price

Summary
The adventures of 60 pilots and ground crewmen who flew or worked on the Spitfire during World War II

A narrative description and condensed history of the Spitfire's construction, combat career, and postwar service tell all there is to know about the finest fighter of World War II. When the book Spitfire at War first appeared in 1974, it enjoyed critical acclaim, for the aircraft had never been described in such terms and detail before. It was followed by a second volume in 1985 and a third volume in 1990. All three volumes sold well and are hailed as classic works on the subject. These important works have been out of print for more than a decade, thereby denying them to the current breed of aviation buffs. The time has come to reissue the three books as a single volume, the author "cherry-picking" the choice cuts to produce the finest title on the mighty and beloved Spitfire.

Contributor Bio
Dr Alfred Price left the RAF as a flight lieutenant in 1974, having logged more than 4,000 flying hours. He is the author of more than 40 books, including Battle of Britain Day and Dogfight.
The RAF at 100
A Century in Photographs
MIRRORPIX

Summary
April 2018 sees the RAF celebrate 100 years of aviation history. The History Press in association with MIRRORPIX has carefully collated a fascinating and evocative collection of photographs from the MIRRORPIX archives to tell the story of the RAF across the entire period of RAF history, from its establishment at the end of the First World War through the 1920s/30s, World War Two, the jet age, the Korean War, the Cold War, helicopters, the Falklands, Iraq, Afghanistan, and beyond. Running throughout this stunning book is a gripping timeline, showcasing the most pivotal, unusual and important events across the RAF’s remarkable history. This beautiful book commemorates the incredible work of the Royal Air Force across its lifetime.

Contributor Bio
MIRRORPIX has granted access to its formidable photo archives to create this beautiful photographic history.

The RAF in 100 Objects
Peter Jacobs

Summary
1 April 2018 will see the hundredth anniversary of the formation of one of the UK’s primary and best-respected armed forces: the Royal Air Force. Born from the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service, whose service – mainly in reconnaissance – in the First World War was exemplary, the RAF has since helped lead the world in the development of aviation and air warfare. From the fighters and bombers of the Second World War, through to the early jet age aircraft and into modern stealth, pilotless and incredibly high-tech vehicles, the last hundred years’ development has been astronomical, and the human story no less impressive. Here Peter Jacobs gathers the most poignant objects of the RAF’s proud history and displays them together here, in full splendid colour, for the first time. Aircraft, memorials, uniforms, equipment – it’s all here, ready to be explored.
**The Royal Air Force Day by Day**  
1918 - 2018  
Air Commodore Graham Pitchfork, Air Chief Marshal ...  

**Summary**  
The Royal Air Force Day by Day is a diary of significant daily events providing a fascinating record of the RAF’s 100-year history, illustrated with more than 500 photographs. It describes not only the great air battles and major events, but also the tapestry of activities, traditions and culture that have created the rich history of the world’s oldest Air Force. Central to this history are the experiences of RAF officers, airmen and women, ground trades and aircrew during war and peacetime. Created in April 1918, the RAF has made a major contribution to peacekeeping and offensive actions worldwide since the First World War and has maintained its position at the forefront of aviation and weapons technology.

**Contributor Bio**  
AIR COMMODORE GRAHAM PITCHFORK MBE, BA, FRAES is the aviation obituaries writer for the Daily Telegraph and Chairman of the Buccaneer Association. He served in the RAF for 36 years as a navigator and was awarded the MBE for his part in introducing the Buccaneer to RAF service in the maritime strike role. He has written widely on aviation history and lives in Gloucestershire.

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**The SR-71 Blackbird Story**  
Mark A. Chambers  

**Summary**  
Perhaps no other aircraft in aviation history has been such a well-kept secret as the Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird. This cutting edge aircraft took the art of aerial spying to an unprecedented level and did it all, from highly clandestine high-speed spy missions over Communist nations during the late 1960s and 1970s for the U.S. Air Force and CIA to advanced sonic boom and hypersonic flight research studies for NASA. This book tells the fascinating story of this truly unique aircraft’s design and development as well as its famous and ingenious designer Mr. Clarence "Kelly" Johnson.

**Contributor Bio**  
Mark A. Chambers works as a contractor for the NASA Langley Research Center. He is the author of Flight Research at NASA Langley Research Center and Images of Modern America: NASA Kennedy Space Center as well as having written articles for Aviation Magazine. He lives in Virginia.
**Wings of Empire (2nd Edition)**
The Forgotten Wars of the Royal Air Force, 1919-1939
Barry Renfrew

A key collection of material from the earliest days of air strategy and combat, creating a definitive history of the RAF in an important theatre of war

**Summary**
At the end of the First World War, British power in the colonies was at an all-time low. That was until a ragtag band of visionaries, including Winston Churchill and T.E. Lawrence, proposed that the aeroplane, the wonder weapon of the age, could save the empire. Using the radical strategy of air control, the RAF tried to subdue vast swathes of the Middle East, Asia and Africa. Wings of Empire is a compelling account of the colonial air campaigns that saw a generation of young airmen take to the skies to battle against warlords, jihadists and hostile tribes. Brought out in paperback to coincide with the centenary of Hugh Trenchard, the author of Air Power, becoming head of the RAF on 31 March 1919, marking the start of the whole experiment, this book chronicles the full story of the RAF’s most extraordinary conflict.

**Contributor Bio**
BARRY RENFREW is a foreign correspondent and has covered wars in Afghanistan, Africa and the former Soviet Union during 30 years of reporting. His reporting won major journalism awards, including The Associated Press Top Reporting Award; he was twice a finalist for The Pulitzer Prize for international reporting. He has a life-long interest in British colonial military history, and previous publications include: Forgotten Regiments: Regular and Volunteer Units of the British Far East (Terrier Press); British Colonial Badges Vols. 1 & 2 (Terrier Press).

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**Jet Flying Boats**
David Oliver

**Summary**
During the Second World War, more than 9,000 flying boats were produced by the main protagonists, fulfilling a multitude of roles including maritime reconnaissance, bombing, fleet spotting, search and rescue, long-range transport and communications. However, time was running out, and a little over a decade after the end of the war, the military flying boat would appear to be a dying breed on the verge of extinction. It would be another twenty years before a new breed of multi-engine flying boats would leave the drawing boards of leading aerospace companies to successfully fulfil, not only their traditional military roles of maritime reconnaissance and search and rescue, but one at which they have proved to be very adept, that of aerial fire-fighting. Currently the twin-turboprop powered twelve-seat Dornier Seastar amphibian is being built in China, which is also developing the AG600 search and rescue amphibian for the Chinese Navy. There have been a number of successful turboprop conversion of piston-engine flying boats such as the Grumman Mallard and Canadair CL-215 amphibians.

**Contributor Bio**
David Oliver has written over fifteen books covering both specific aircraft types and wider aviation and military history. He has also worked for the respected Jane’s defence information publishers.
The Harrier
The World's First V/STOL Fighter
David Oliver

Summary
The iconic Hawker-Siddeley Harrier was designed to fight the Cold War from the fields of West Germany but won its battle spurs in the Falklands, Belize and Afghanistan. It was controversially scrapped by the British Government fifty years after entering service with the RAF and its loss raised serious questions over Royal Navy fleet protection. This book not only describes the aircraft and its operations but includes quotes from the pilots who flew and fought in it. Author David Oliver describes the development and production of the Harrier from the original Kestrel project, which was the only successful attempt at a vertical take-off and landing aircraft at the time. He follows the Harrier into service with the RAF and also covers the development of the Sea Harrier, with its special characteristics and its extraordinarily successful performance in the Falklands War where its unique engine made it an agile fighter. He also describes the use of the Harrier in other deployments such as Belize and Afghanistan, covers Anglo-US developments and examines the legacy of the Harrier in the sh...

Contributor Bio
David Oliver has written over fifteen books covering both specific aircraft types and wider aviation and military history. He has also worked for the respected Jane’s defence information publishers.

The Merlin EH(AW) 101
From Design to Front Line
Rich Pittman

Summary
As one of the most iconic helicopters of all time reaches thirty, Rich Pittman offers a richly illustrated look back at a vehicle that remains popular with armed services and aviation enthusiasts around the world. The helicopter used to be designated the EH101 and is now the AW101.

Designed by the European Helicopter Industries (EHI) partnership during the 1980s, initially as a naval helicopter to help combat the threat of an attack from Soviet missile submarines, the Merlin has evolved into a multi-role helicopter today. The AW101 combines the most advanced technologies, safety by design, mission systems and leading-edge manufacturing to provide a proven platform for long-range Search and Rescue (SAR) operations in certain countries. With a typical range of 750 nm (over 1,300 km) in standard configuration, the AW101 is the most capable SAR helicopter in the world today. Other roles include transportation for Heads of State and VIP operators; Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR); Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO); Anti-Surface Warfare (ASuW); Airborne Surveillance and Control (ASaC); Airborne Mine Countermeasures (AMCM); troop transport; utility support, CASEVAC/MEDEVAC; and Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR). Lavishly illustrated throughout, Rich Pittman offers a fascinating portrait of an enduring and popular aircraft and traces its journey fro...

Contributor Bio
Rich Pittman has been an aviation enthusiast his entire life, with his father being employed at Westland’s helicopter factory in Yeovil. He also has a passion for travel and photography, and likes to combine these with his love of aviation.
Voices of the Flemish Waffen-SS
The Final Testament of the Oostfronters
Jonathan Trigg

What motivated men to fight for an enemy that had invaded their own country? These are last voices of the Flemish Waffen-SS; there are very few left and they tell their story with absolute candour. After 70 years, why would they not?

Summary
At the very beginning of the Second World War Germany invaded and occupied Belgium. Yet less than a year later some of Belgium’s citizens volunteered to join the Waffen-SS and go and fight on the newly formed Eastern Front against Stalin’s Soviet Union. By the end of the war thousands had volunteered. Casualties were high, but there were survivors and they returned home, often to face condemnation and retribution. This book is about the war they fought in their own words, the very few who remain, the last testament before they are all gone. The motivations of these men were complex: the Flemings have their own culture and identity and some longed for a state independent of French-speaking Belgium. Some volunteered through a deep hatred of communism, often fuelled by their Catholic faith. Some, of course, were simply persuaded by Hitler’s vision of a new world order. The Flemish Waffen-SS, in various configurations, saw action on the Eastern Front from 1941 onwards? at the siege of Leningrad, in the Ukraine, then retreating into Germany itself with the remnants surrendering to the Alli...

Contributor Bio
Having passed out from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Jonathan Trigg served as an infantry officer in the Royal Anglian Regiment, completing tours in Northern Ireland and Bosnia, as well as in the Gulf. After working in the City, he now has his own business training the long-term unemployed to get them into work. His previous books include Death on the Don: The Destruction of Germany’s Allies on the Eastern Front.

Spitfire to Reaper
The Changing Face of Aerial Warfare - 1940-Present Day
Anthony Tucker-Jones

Summary
Since the Luftwaffe’s 1940 Eagle Day attack on Britain, aerial warfare and its accompanying technology has changed almost beyond recognition. The piston engine was replaced by the jet and the pilot in some cases has been completely replaced by a computer. Carpet bombing became GPS and laser pinpointed. Whereas a bomber’s greatest enemy was once fighters and flak, these dangers morphed into air-to-air and surface-to-air missiles. In this new book, Anthony Tucker-Jones charts the remarkable evolution of aerial warfare over time, from the iconic Supermarine Spitfire to the infamous unmanned Reaper drone.

Contributor Bio
Anthony Tucker-Jones spent nearly 20 years in the British Intelligence community before establishing himself as a defense writer and military historian. He has written extensively on aspects of WWII warfare, including Hitler’s Great Panzer Heist and Stalin’s Revenge: Operation Bagration. He has also written Slaughter on the Eastern Front for The History Press.
**LINDBERGH: A Photographic Biography of the Lone Eagle**

*A Photographic History of the Lone Eagle*

Bruce McAllister, Stephan Wilkinson

**Summary**

Many Americans who no longer remember the legacy of the world’s first true media celebrity have forgotten Charles A. Lindbergh—aviator, adventurer, author, activist, pathfinder, fighter pilot, and conservationist. This book brings back to life that epic career in evocative text and hundreds of photographs, many rarely published, reawakening the careers of a man and his wife who achieved more, in more varied fields, than perhaps any couple in history. Lindbergh’s epic non-stop flight from New York to Paris in a single-engine aircraft was the biggest media event in the 1920s and set up the United States to become a world leader in aviation.

**Contributor Bio**

Bruce McAllister is a semi-retired freelance photographer/writer/publisher/commercial pilot who has logged most of his 5,100 hours of flight time in the Rockies, the Arctic, the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and Alaska. McAllister has authored ten aviation history titles and has contributed to AIR & SPACE Smithsonian.

Stephan Wilkinson has been a freelance magazine writer for the past 35 years and before that was the Editor-in-Chief of Car and Driver magazine as well as Executive Editor of Flying magazine. He currently contributes to AIR & SPACE Smithsonian and is the Automotive Editor of Conde Nast Traveler.

**Dead Men Flying**

*Victory in Viet Nam The Legend of Dust off: America's Battlefield Angels*

General Patrick Henry Brady, Meghan Brady Smith

**Summary**

Viet Nam may be the only war we ever fought, or perhaps that was ever fought, in which the heroism of the American soldier was accompanied by humanitarianism unmatched in the annals of warfare. And the humanitarianism took place during the heat of the battle. The GI fixed as he fought, he cured and educated and built in the middle of the battle. He truly cared for, and about, those people. What other Army has ever done that?

Humanitarianism was America’s great victory in Viet Nam. Spearheading the humanitarian efforts were the air ambulance operations, call-sign Dust Off, the most dangerous of all aviation operations, which rescued some one million souls in Viet Nam. **Dead Men Flying** is the story of Charles Kelly, the father of Dust Off, who gave his life to save Dust Off—the greatest life-saver ever. His dying words—When I have your wounded—set the standard for combat medicine to this day. It is also the story of the author, Medal of Honor recipient General Patrick Brady, who learned from Charles Kelly and struggled to meet his standard. Brady led the 54th Medical Detachment as it res...

**Contributor Bio**

MAJOR GENERAL (RET) PAT BRADY served over 34 years in the Army in duty stations across the world: In Berlin during the building of the Wall; as commander of the DMZ in Korea, in the Dominican Republic; in the Pentagon as chief spokesman for the Army and for 2 years in Viet Nam. In two tours in Viet Nam he rescued over 5000 wounded and flew over 2500 combat missions. He is identified in the Encyclopedia of the Viet Nam War as the top helicopter pilot in that war and is one of two Viet Nam soldiers to earn both the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross, our nation’s second highest award. General Brady has a...
The Illustrated Handbook of Flak
German Anti-Aircraft Defences 1935–1945: Weapons, Emplacements, Equipments
Denis Lepage

Summary
The last line of defense—the men, weapons, and fortifications of the German anti-aircraft teams

During World War II, as the Allies sent thousands of aircraft to attack the German homeland, it was the flak teams that stood as the last line of defense. This handbook covers all aspects of German antiaircraft artillery: its development from the first antiballoon artillery in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 to the sophisticated ground-to-air rockets in use by 1945; the administrative, strategical, and tactical organizations involved; and the variety of weapons used. It details the uniforms worn by the men including flags, badges, and medals; equipment used such as searchlights, range finders, and radar; and mobile flak emplacements and permanent fortifications. The services involved are also described, including the police, fire brigades, paramilitary auxiliaries, and the German Red Cross. With more than 300 illustrations created by the author, this is an outstanding reference work, providing new insight into the anti-aircraft teams who fought to hold back the overwhelming might of the All...

Contributor Bio
Denis Lepage is a writer, translator, and illustrator specializing in military history. He is the author of 12 books, including *Vauban and the French Military*.

Fire in the Sky
The Australian Flying Corps in the First World War
Michael Molkentin

Summary
"I half rolled, and there before my eyes was as perfect a target as I had ever seen in my life. A pressure of a thumb, a short burst, a puff of smoke, a flash of flame, a hole on the clouds—and it was over." —Lieutenant Robert McKenzie, No. 2 Squadron Australian Flying Corps.

When World War I began in August 1914, airplanes were a novelty, barely a decade old. Despite this, Australia was one of just a few nations outside Europe to establish a military flying school and corps. From a first class of four student pilots the Australian Flying Corps would grow to number almost 4,000 by the armistice. Its young volunteers were pioneers in a completely new dimension of warfare as they struggled for control of the skies over the Western Front and Middle East. Using private letters, diaries, and official records, historian Michael Molkentin reveals, for the first time in more than 90 years, the remarkable story of the airmen and mechanics of the Australian Flying Corps. It is an extraordinary tale of heroism and endurance; of a war fought thousands of feet above the trenches in aircraft of ti...

Contributor Bio
Michael Molkentin is a prize-winning historian, teacher and battlefield tour guide. He has a degree in history from the University of Wollongong.
How to Fly a Plane
The First World War Pilot's Manual
Horatio Barber

Summary
The training aid for many a pilot from one of the leading instructors of the First World War. There are 160 pages with many illustrations of leading aircraft of the period. Chock full of handy tips for the budding aviator. Nothing could ready you for the world of combat, where pilots' lives were measured in hours rather than years, but Captain Barber of the Royal Flying Corps could prepare you for your first solo flight in the primitive aircraft of the time. Taking you through the various types, he shows you how to fly a First World War biplane.

Contributor Bio
Horatio Barber was one of Britain's first pilots, and was instrumental in setting up Shoreham Airport, Britain's first municipal airport. Reputed to have a voice so loud he shouted instructions at aviators from the ground, he died in the mid-1950s. His book went through four editions in 1916 and 1917 and has become a classic of aviation literature.

Bomber Boys
The Extraordinary Adventures of a Group of Airmen Who Escaped the Japanese and Became the RAAF's Celebrated 18th Squadron
Marianne Van Velzen

Summary
March 1942. Java is about to fall. An Australian military dispatch rider and a Dutch air force transport pilot embark on a frightening escape from the advancing Japanese that takes them from Bandung to a crash landing just north of Darwin. Both would later join a unique band of flyers determined to strike back at the enemy.

Bomber Boys is the extraordinary and little known story of more than 100 Dutch airmen, stranded in Australia with no country to return to, who were joined by a contingent of Australians to make up the RAAF's No. 18 (Netherlands East Indies) Squadron. Formed in Canberra in April 1942, the squadron flew operational coastal patrols before eventually being relocated to the secret MacDonald Airfield, north of Pine Creek in the Northern Territory, and eventually Batchelor, near Darwin.

This is, however, more than a story about the 900 bombing raids, reconnaissance missions and attacks on Japanese shipping that the squadron flew in its three years of existence under Australian control. At its heart is a powerful and compelling story of a group of very different men, thrown...

Contributor Bio
Marianne van Velzen is a Dutch journalist who lived in Australia for many years. She is the author of Call of the Outback, the story of Ernestine Hill, published in 2016, and Missing in Action, the story of Australia's World War I Grave Services.
A Spitfire Pilot's Story
Pat Hughes: Battle of Britain Top Gun
Dennis Newton

Summary
Pat Hughes is today perhaps the greatest unsung hero of the Battle of Britain. Ranked sixth in the ‘ace of aces’ of the aerial campaign of summer 1940, he shot down at least fourteen enemy aircraft, mostly the Spitfire’s closely matched rival the Messerschmitt Me 109. As a flight commander in 234 Squadron he advocated bold, close-in tactics and during July 1940 scored the squadron’s first victories of the epic battle for air supremacy. The burden of command fell on his shoulders before the squadron transferred to the heart of the Battle in the south-east of England, where he endured the heaviest and most sustained period of fighting of the Battle of Britain. Revered by his fellow pilots, Hughes began a shooting spree on 15 August that only ended when he was killed during the first huge daylight attack on London on 7 September. In his last three days alone he contributed at least six kills. His death in mysterious circumstances left Kathleen, his bride of just six weeks, a war widow. This volume is illustrated with over forty photographs, including many from his family that have never...

Contributor Bio
Dennis Newton is an aviation journalist and author of six books including ‘A Few of the Few’, ‘Clash of Eagles’, ‘Australian Air Aces’ & ‘First Impact’. He edited the Battle of Britain memoir of Gordon Olive, ‘Spitfire Ace’, also published by Amberley & serialised in the Daily Mail: ‘Ever wonder what it was like to fly a Spitfire in the Battle of Britain? No account captures it quite so nerve shredding as this new book’. He lives in New South Wales, Australia.

Coventry's Blitz
David McGrory

Summary
'I was happy that Coventry was selected as a target, as it was an important military objective... The night was clear and flying was easy. Missing the target was practically impossible.' Field-Marshal Kesselring, describing the air raid of 14 November 1940. Between 1940 and 1942 the people of Coventry were subjected to continued and devastating attacks by the Luftwaffe, leaving 1,252 dead, 1,859 injured and a city in ruins. Written by local historian David McGrory, Coventry's Blitz is the first full account of the blitz that blighted Coventry during the Second World War, commemorating its seventy-fifth anniversary. The book tells the story of the city and its residents throughout the war, starting with the digging of the shelters in 1938 to the last bombs in 1942 and Goering and Kesselring’s comments on the November raid at the Nuremberg Trials. Coventry's Blitz uses new sources, material and memories from people all over the world to bring the events between 1938 and 1945 to life, events that changed the face of the city and made it what it is today. Richly illustrated with previous...

Contributor Bio
David McGrory is one of Coventry's best-known historians. Among others he has written for Amberley and also written: A History of Coventry (Phillimore), Coventry: History and Guide (Sutton Publishing) and Haunted Coventry (Sutton Publishing). David also wrote a popular column for Coventry Evening Telegraph for five years.
Paras
Voices of the British Airborne Forces in the Second World War
Roger Payne

Summary
This book is full of untold short stories of men who created a legend, the legend of the British airborne forces during the Second World War. Impressed by the performance of the German paratroopers in Belgium and the Netherlands in 1940, and on Crete in 1941, Winston Churchill ordered the creation of a British Airborne force of no less than 5,000 parachutists. Their task was to land behind enemy lines and take and hold or destroy key objectives while ground troops advanced toward them. The result was the 1st and 6th Airborne divisions, and this is their story, as told by the men themselves. Covering everything from the initial training at Hardwick Hall and Ringway through their first operations in North Africa and Italy, to D-Day, Operation Market Garden and the crossing of the Rhine, this is a compelling account of the war fought by the paratroopers and their comrades in the glider units.

Contributor Bio
Roger Payne survived the dreaded Selection for the Parachute Regiment in the early 1960s, serving in 1st Battalion the Parachute Regiment and as an instructor at the Parachute Regiment Depot before accepting a position in the Australian army, where he served for 22 years. He holds the Order of Australia (OAM).

Arnhem: Myth and Reality
Airborne Warfare, Air Power and the Failure of Operation Market Garden
Sebastian Ritchie

Summary
Operation Market Garden, often depicted as one of the most decisive military actions of the Allied campaign, offered an opportunity to conclude hostilities with Hitler's Germany before 1945 but its disastrous failure left the Allies facing another seven months of difficult and costly fighting. In this revised new paperback edition of Arnhem: Myth and Reality, Sebastian Ritchie demonstrates that the operation can only be properly understood if it is considered alongside earlier airborne ventures and reassesses the role of the Allied air forces and the widely held view that they bore a particular responsibility for Market Garden's failure. By placing Market Garden in its correct historical setting and by reassessing Allied air plans and their execution, this groundbreaking book provides a radically different view of the events of September 1944, challenging much of the current orthodoxy in the process.

Contributor Bio
Sebastian Ritchie is an official historian at the Air Historical Branch (RAF) of the Ministry of Defence. He is the author of numerous official narratives covering RAF operations in Iraq and the Former Yugoslavia, and he has also lectured and published widely on aspects of air power and air operations, as well as airborne operations and special operations in World War II.
Rudolf Hess: The Last Word
A New Technical Analysis of the Hess Flight, May 1941
John Harris, Richard Wilbourn

Summary
No one can resist a good conspiracy theory—particulary if it involves the MI6, the Nazis, and the Royal Family—and the one behind Rudolf Hess’ flight to Scotland during WWII has yet to be debunked

On May 10, 1941, on a whim, Hitler's deranged deputy Rudolf Hess flew a Messerschmitt Bf 110 to Scotland in a bizarre effort to make peace with Britain. Goering sent fighters to stop him but he was long gone. Arrested and tried at Nuremberg, he would die by his own hand in 1987, aged 93. That's the official story. Ever since, conspiracy theories have swirled around the famous mission. How strong were his connections with the British establishment, including royalty? Was the death of the king’s brother the Duke of York associated with the Hess overture for peace? In the several books on Hess, one obvious line of inquiry has been overlooked until now—an analysis of the flight itself: the flight plan, the data sheets, the navigation system. Through their investigation over many years, the authors come to a startling conclusion. The Luftwaffe was fully aware of the flight—and therefore so was th...

Contributor Bio
John Harris is the author of Rudolf Hess: The British Conspiracy. Richard Wilbourn is a contributor to Eye Spy and History Today.

Spitfire
Pilots' Stories
Alfred Price

Summary
When Spitfire at War first appeared in 1974, it enjoyed critical acclaim, for the aircraft had never been described in such terms and detail before. It was followed by a second volume in 1985 and a third volume in 1990. All three volumes sold well and are hailed as classic works on the subject. These important works were long out of print until this collected volume appeared in 2012. Now available in paperback, this single volume is the result of author Alfred Price’s "cherry-picking" among the choice cuts to produce the finest title on the mighty and beloved Spitfire.

Contributor Bio
Dr. Alfred Price joined the RAF as soon as he could, then volunteered for aircrew as an Air Electronics Officer and flew in Hastings transports and Vulcan bombers. He also instructed in electronic warfare and target penetration tactics. He left the RAF as a Flight Lieutenant in 1974, having logged over 4,000 flying hours, to pursue his dream of becoming an aviation writer.
**Tales of Lancasters and Other Aircraft**  
**Dangerous Skies in the Second World War**  
George Culling

**Summary**  
Of every 100 operational airmen in World War II, nine were killed flying in England and three severely injured in crashes; non-operational casualties numbered more than 15,000. Operational casualties were chillingly grim—more than 56,000 airmen died in World War II, more than half those involved. George Culling was a 19-year-old Lancaster navigator whose experiences often involved battling tricky and dangerous conditions. Fascinated by the ever-present dangers for airmen even away from combat, he has collated tales from comrades and combined them with his own to preserve some of the unexpected, dangerous, and often downright bizarre experiences that typified daily life for airman in World War II.

**Contributor Bio**  
**George Culling** is a nonagenarian who has belatedly set down his accounts of bizarre experiences at war when, as a 19-year-old, he navigated a Lancaster on flights of up to 10 hours using only the stars to plot their position. He became an expert in astro-navigation after the war ended before spending a long career in teaching.

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**The Female Few**  
**Spitfire Heroines**  
Jacky Hyams

**Summary**  
Through the darkest days of the Second World War, an elite group of courageous, gifted women risked their lives as courier pilots, flying Lancaster Bombers, Spitfires and many other aircraft in hundreds of perilous missions across the country. In *The Female Few*, five of these astonishingly brave women tell their stories for the first time, awe inspiring tales of incredible risk, tenacity and sacrifice. Their spirit and fearlessness in the face of death still resonates down the years, and their accounts reveal a forgotten chapter in the history of the Second World War. As Yvonne Macdonald, now 90 and living in Cape Cod, says, "It was a kind of freedom you never get any other way, it was as if you had wings sewn on your back. A lot of people here in Cape Cod don't even know I was in World War Two. Or what I did." They do now.

**Contributor Bio**  
**Jacky Hyams** is a journalist and the author of *Bomb Girls* and *The Real Life Downton Abbey*. She has written for Sydney Morning Herald, *London Evening Standard*, *The Times* and *Rolling Stone*. 
The Race for Hitler's X-Planes
Britain's 1945 Mission to Capture Secret Luftwaffe Technology

John Christopher

Summary

An account of the race for secret Nazi aviation technology at the end of World War II

During World War II, Hitler's engineers had pioneered an incredible array of futuristic secret weapons, from the Me 262, the first operational jet fighter, to the deadly V2 intercontinental ballistic missile. With the Third Reich shattered and lying in ruins, in the summer of 1945, the Allies launched a frantic race to grab what they saw as the justifiable spoils of war. The Americans and Russians in particular were anxious to secure not only the aircraft and the research and production facilities, but also the key German scientists and engineers. This Nazi technology would define the balance of power in the phony peace of the Cold War era, launching an arms race that shaped the modern world for decades to come. Using previously unpublished secret Air Ministry reports, and offering comprehensive photographs of the aircraft, research, and manufacturing facilities, this book tells the untold story of the British mission to Germany.

Contributor Bio

John Christopher is an aviation writer and a professional balloon pilot. His books include The Apollo Story and Transatlantic Airships.

Kokoda Air Strikes

Allied Air Forces in New Guinea, 1942

Anthony Cooper

Summary

The author of the bestselling Darwin Spitfires casts a forensic eye over the role that Allied air forces played—or failed to play—in crucial World War II campaigns in New Guinea. This is the story of the early battles of the southwest Pacific theatre—the Coral Sea, Kokoda, Milne Bay, Guadalcanal—presented as a single air campaign that began with the Japanese conquest of Rabaul in January 1942. It is a story of both Australian and American airmen who flew and fought in the face of adversity—with incomplete training, inadequate aircraft, and from poorly set up and exposed airfields. And they persisted despite extreme exhaustion, sickness, poor morale, and the near certainty of being murdered by their Japanese captors if they went down in enemy territory.

Contributor Bio

Anthony Cooper is a Brisbane schoolteacher. He is a former glider pilot instructor, has a PhD in German aviation history, and is the author of Darwin Spitfires, which won the Northern Territory Chief Minister’s NT History Book Award, and HMAS Bataan, 1952.
**Dogfight**

**Donovan Bixley**

**Summary**

Our hero is Claude D’Bonair, a young pilot in the Cat Air Corp, keen to prove his worth to the older pilots and live up to the memory of his father. Will cats and dogs ever live in harmony again? And will Claude survive with his nine lives intact? In book one, *Dogfight*, Claude must fly a secret and dangerous mission deep into the heart of Dogz held territory to save the Air Corp’s most famous dogfighter, Major Tom, who is being held prisoner in the Dogz castle HQ. If he fails it could spell cat-astrophe for the whole of katdom. There’s mysterious spies, secret messages, and codes to crack, plus lots of laughs and action. Along the way, Claude is helped by Manx, a no-nonsense young girl mechanic; Syd Fishus, a jaded old pilot; and C4, HQ’s resident inventor (whose gadgets never seem to work as intended). All the while there is a traitor within katdom.

**Contributor Bio**

**Donovan Bixley** is an illustrator and designer. He has illustrated more than 100 stories, including the bestselling children’s book *Old Macdonald’s Farm* and *The Wheels on the Bus*. He has also written and illustrated half a dozen books of his own, including *Faithfully Mozart* and *Much Ado About Shakespeare*.

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**Jeremiah Jellyfish Flies High!**

**John Fardell**

**Summary**

A hilarious high-flying, loop-the-loop picture book from the award-winning creator of *The Seven Professors of the Far North*

Join Jeremiah Jellyfish as he swims away from his shoal and finds himself taking charge of the World’s Biggest Rocket Plane Factory! Small children—and their parents—will relish the delicious comedy served up by the unusual role swap in this exquisite, wonderfully imaginative picture book.

**Contributor Bio**

**John Fardell** is the author of *The Flight of the Silver Turtle*, *Manfred the Baddie* which was shortlisted for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize, and *The Seven Professors of the Far North*. 
Sammy Goes Flying
Odette Elliott, Georgina McIntyre

Summary
Sammy’s grandma helps him learn to fly in this affectionate portrait of a multicultural extended family, with all-new illustrations
Sammy dreams of flying. His older siblings are going on a school trip to an airplane museum, but Sammy is too small to go. Then Grandma plans a magical day out just for Sammy. This empowering story for very young children who are often “too small” to take part contains beautiful illustrations of flight, including a spread of London from above.

Contributor Bio
Odette Elliott is the author of My Big Brother JJ, Sammy’s Christmas Workshop, and Under Sammy’s Bed.

Suzie the Suitcase
Nita Losoponkul, Catherine Vallance

Summary
Suzie is not your typical frequent flyer. She’s feisty, colorful, curious and loves a little adventure. With guidance from her friends Bobby and Larry, join Suzie as she heads to the airport to catch her flight. This delightful story helps children begin to unravel the mysteries of flying, through the eyes of Suzie… the Suitcase.

Contributor Bio
Nita is a graduate of the California Institute of Technology and the University of California at Los Angeles. She is a master of the airport pentathlon and stores her furniture and unused kitchen paraphernalia in Reno, Nevada. When not collaborating with hard-working and amazing teachers to rapidly increase student learning, or partnering with school and district administrators to create rewarding career opportunities for teachers, Nita can be found attempting to carve first tracks in fresh powder around Lake Tahoe. Suzie the Suitcase is her first book.
**Meet Nancy Bird Walton**  
Grace Atwood, Harry Slaghekke

**Summary**  
In this latest addition to the picture book series about the extraordinary men and women who have shaped Australia's history, learn about Australia's first female commercial pilot, Nancy Bird Walton.

Nancy Bird Walton grew up during the golden age of aviation. By the time she was 13, Nancy knew she wanted to fly. When she was 18, Nancy studied under the famous aviator Charles Kingsford Smith. This is the story of how Nancy began her career as Australia’s first female commercial pilot.

**Contributor Bio**  
Grace Atwood is a writer. Harry Slaghekke is a freelance illustrator.

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**Little Wings**  
The Story of Amy Johnson  
F.J Beerling, Gareth Bowler

**Summary**  
Back in the 1930's, pioneering English aviator, Amy Johnson became the first female pilot to fly solo from England to Australia. She then went on to break numerous flying records and was greeted by a ticker-tape reception during her tour of New York. This delightful book teaches the young reader to believe in themselves and to never give up by sharing in Amy’s courageous and often dangerous journeys as she flew across the skies. Historically accurate, engaging, and entertaining this book is sure to delight and is a must have for all budding pilots everywhere.

**Contributor Bio**  
F.J Beerling is a national best-selling and now international selling author of children's historically accurate picture books. Eleven titles published to date, she is the first author anywhere in the world on record to write about famous aviatrix Amy Johnson for young children, the first to write about world famous London-based Biggin Hill Airport and her latest book titled, They Raced To The Moon is now available to buy from NASA’s Wallop's Island gift shops. In just three short years she has sold over 17,000 books and has distribution contracts with the UK, Australia and now, of course, the USA. Faye's unique writing style has won her worldwide acclaim and she continues to reach out to and educate children worldwide.  

Gareth Bowler works alongside author F.J. Beerling and between them they have published eleven titles to date, selling books in many countries and with distribution contracts in the UK, Australia and now the USA. Gareth's illustrations have won him accolade internationally and captured the hearts of children worldwide through visual imagery. Gareth Bowler works...
**Hurricane Harry**

F.J Beerling, Gareth Bowler

**Summary**

During the start of WWII at the Battle of Britain, the Hurricane plane not only outnumbered the Spitfire but it also shot more enemy planes. This delightful book not only shares its amazing adventures but it also introduces the young reader to the early history of Britain's oldest and most famous Airport, Biggin Hill. The rich and fascinating history of the Hurricane plane is told through a gentle approach using visually pleasing illustrations and easy-to-follow text. There is also a fact-filled page at the back of the book for additional reading. Engaging, entertaining, and educating, the story serves as a great learning tool and is a must have for budding pilots and history buffs everywhere.

**Contributor Bio**

**F.J Beerling** is a national best-selling and now international selling author of children's historically accurate picture books. Eleven titles published to date, she is the first author anywhere in the world on record to write about famous aviatrix Amy Johnson for young children, the first to write about world famous London-based Biggin Hill Airport and her latest book titled, They Raced To The Moon is now available to buy from NASA's Wallop's Island gift shops. In just three short years she has sold over 17,000 books and has distribution contracts with the UK, Australia and now, of course, the USA. Fay's unique writing style has won her worldwide acclaim and she continues to reach out to and educate children worldwide.

**Gareth Bowler** works alongside author F.J. Beerling and between them they have published eleven titles to date, selling books in many countries and with distribution contracts in the UK, Australia and now the USA. Gareth's illustrations have won him accolade internationally and captured the hearts of children worldwide through visual imagery. Gareth Bowler works alongside...

**Sally B ... & Me**

F.J Beerling, Gareth Bowler

**Summary**

This beautifully written book tells the story of one of the most famous airworthy B-17's, Sally B. From her humble beginnings to how she became the flying memorial to the 79,000 US and allied airmen who lost their lives fighting for our freedom. This is the first and only official book anywhere in the world to tell the story of Europe's only airworthy B-17 which is arguably the most famous US bomber of WWII. Each page will teach the young reader about Sally B's history and her amazing journey in her quest to stop enemy invasion.

**Contributor Bio**

**F.J. Beerling** is the author of Hurricane Harry, Little Wings, They Raced to the Moon, and WWII Spitfire Pilot. Her unique writing style has won her worldwide acclaim and she continues to reach out to and educate children worldwide. **Gareth Bowler** is an illustrator whose work has won him accolades internationally and has captured the hearts of children worldwide. He is the illustrator of Hurricane Harry, Little Wings, They Raced to the Moon, and WWII Spitfire Pilot. They both live in England.
**WWII Spitfire Pilot at the Battle of Britain**
F.J Beerling, Gareth Bowler

**Summary**
This book is a delightful yet gentle approach to introducing the young reader to the reality of how WWII started and to the role of the young British pilot in charge of a Spitfire airplane. Full of amazing historical facts, the story includes how pots and pans were melted down to make more planes and how women made airplane parts by working in factories and even drove tanks. Beautifully illustrated with easy-to-read text, this book is not only engaging, entertaining, and educating but it also serves as a great learning tool to WWII and British/American history. It is a must have for budding pilots everywhere.

**Contributor Bio**
**F.J Beerling** is a national best-selling and now international selling author of children’s historically accurate picture books. Eleven titles published to date, she is the first author anywhere in the world on record to write about famous aviatrix Amy Johnson for young children, the first to write about world famous London-based Biggin Hill Airpot and her latest book titled, They Raced To The Moon is now available to buy from NASA's Wallop's Island gift shops. In just three short years she has sold over 17,000 books and has distribution contracts with the UK, Australia and now, of course, the USA. Faye's unique writing style has won her worldwide acclaim and she continues to reach out to and educate children worldwide.

**Gareth Bowler** works alongside author F.J. Beerling and between them they have published eleven titles to date, selling books in many countries and with distribution contracts in the UK, Australia and now the USA. Gareth's illustrations have won him accolade internationally and captured the hearts of children worldwide through visual imagery. Gareth Bowler works alongsid...
**Space**
Steffi Clavell-Clarke

**Summary**
With this series you'll be able to impress your friends with extreme facts on all things science. Discover mind-blowing statistics and hair-raising truths that will leave your friends and family gob-smacked!!

**Space Infographics**
Harriet Brundle

**Summary**
Journey into space and learn about the different parts of the solar system with this explorative title. Focused on image-led, fun, and factual information, readers will be captivated from start to finish.

**Contributor Bio**
**Harriet Brundle** is the author of more than 30 nonfiction books for children.
The Moon
Holly Duhig

Summary
Come on a journey through space and let your handy spacecraft provide you with all the information you will need to discover everything our universe has to offer. Explore the moons, planets and stars in the night sky and find out what makes each of them unique.

The Planets
Holly Duhig

Summary
Come on a journey through space and let your handy spacecraft provide you with all the information you will need to discover everything our universe has to offer. Explore the moons, planets and stars in the night sky and find out what makes each of them unique.
The Sun
Holly Duhig

Summary
Come on a journey through space and let your handy spacecraft provide you with all the information you will need to discover everything our universe has to offer. Explore the moons, planets and stars in the night sky and find out what makes each of them unique.

Read It Build It: Space
Susan Hayes, Simon Abbot

Summary
An innovatively formatted book allows kids to blast off into space as they read the adventure and build the tower scenes out of stacking boxes

Are you ready to blast off into space? You’ll need to build your rocket, travel to the International Space Station, complete a spacewalk, find out about the solar system, and travel back to Earth. This innovative adventure box set contains a book and six stacking boxes that can be built into five fantastic scenes—rocket, rocket launch, astronaut, space mission, and solar system. Each build activity reinforces the material covered in the book, and enhances comprehension as well as eye-hand coordination.

Contributor Bio
Susan Hayes is a children's book publisher and a former teacher. Simon Abbott has been illustrating children's books and products for more than 15 years, including Little Vehicle Books and Zoo Animals.
The Space Race
How we set our sights on the stars and conquered space
Angelina Yalda

Summary
Why are we so fascinated by the stars?
How did we get to the Moon?
What was the Space Race?

The Space Race explains the developments and achievements in the race for the stars, from the Cold War competition of the USA and USSR to man’s more recent co-operation in making the International Space Station a success.

The Space Shuttle, the unmanned exploration of the solar system and the planned colonisation of Mars are also featured in this beautifully illustrated and informative book.

Contributor Bio
Angelina Masiello Yalda is an award-winning teacher with more than 25 years’ experience inspiring children to learn about their world by gathering and evaluating available information to them.

It is Nat!
Level 0
Ladybird

Summary
Book 2 contains two stories that build on the initial letter sounds learnt in Book 1 and focus on the sound and letter combinations: s, a, t, p, i, n.

Read it yourself with Ladybird is one of Ladybird's best-selling reading series. For over thirty-five years it has helped young children who are learning to read develop and improve their reading skills.

Each Read it yourself book is very carefully written to include many key, high-frequency words that are vital for learning to read, as well as a limited number of story words that are introduced and practised throughout. Simple sentences and frequently repeated words help to build the confidence of beginner readers and the four different levels of books support children all the way from very first reading practice through to independent, fluent reading.

There are more than ninety titles in the Read it yourself series, ranging from classic fairy tales and traditional world stories to favourite children's brands such as Peppa Pig, Kung Fu Panda and Peter Rabbit. A range of first reference titles complete the series, with information books a...

Contributor Bio
Ladybird brings together characters from well-loved children's TV shows, including Peppa Pig, In the Night Garden, Ben and Holly, and the lively twosome Topsy and Tim; plus a whole host of fairy-tale favorites like Cinderella and Pinocchio. Whether they're discovered through snuggly bedtime favorites, buggy books that accompany adventures, or fun apps for playtime, really great stories open up whole new worlds and spark imagination, creativity, and curiosity.
### Space Party

**Level 0**
Ladybird

**Summary**
Book 1 is an introduction to phonics that focuses on the initial letter sounds: **s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, o, c, r, b, f**.

Read it yourself with Ladybird is one of Ladybird's best-selling reading series. For over thirty-five years it has helped young children who are learning to read develop and improve their reading skills.

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**Contributor Bio**

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### Planes

**Donald Grant**

**Summary**
Find out people first learned to fly in hot air balloons and in small planes. Visit the cockpit of a large passenger liner.
Sky High
Jean Batten’s Incredible Flying Adventures
David Hill, Phoebe Morris

Summary
In 1934, Jean Batten set a world record for the fastest flight from England to Australia. Just two years later, she made the first-ever solo flight from England to New Zealand. Jean’s fearless determination and flying skills helped her survive storms and crashes, as she crossed great oceans and lonely deserts in her tiny plane. This gripping true story with its dazzling illustrations is the third form the award-winning author and illustrator of First to the Top and Speed King.

Contributor Bio
David Hill is a reviewer, fiction writer, playwright and children’s writer. Born in Napier, he spent fourteen years teaching before writing full-time. His many published books range from studies on poetry, to teenage fiction, for which he has received numerous prizes. His first young adult novel won the 1994 Times Educational Supplement Award for Special Needs. He won the 2002 Children’s Literature Foundation Gaelyn Gordon Award for a Much-Loved Book, the 2003 LIANZA Esther Glen Medal, the 2013 NZ Post Junior Fiction Award, and the 2013 LIANZA Librarian’s Choice Award. As a child Phoebe Morris always dreamed of becoming a zoo keeper and working with animals. However, persistent allergies meant that she ended up drawing them instead. As an adult, Phoebe now spends her time drawing a range of things - either on paper, or on her custom PC named ‘The Millennium Falcon’ In 2015 Phoebe Collaborated with author David Hill on the acclaimed picture-book biography of Sir Edmund Hillary, First to the Top. Unanimously praised for the quality of the illustrations, it was named a 2017 Storylines N...

Designing and Building a Miniature Aero-Engine
Chris Turner

Summary
Aimed at home metalworkers, engineers, hobbyists aero-engine builders, and airplane enthusiasts, this guide offers instructions on how to build a miniature aero-engine

Designing and building a miniature aero-engine is an exciting and rewarding task. Whether a professional engineer or an amateur looking to build an engine to fly your model airplane, this book will safely guide you through all the stages of designing and constructing an aero-engine at home. With practical advice and detailed diagrams throughout, the book includes information on the machine tools, materials, and accessories required, and details on designing the engine, including a focus on proportion, valve timing, and engine balancing. There is also information on the manufacture of carburetors, assembly, and setting up, as well as how to choose an aircraft for a home-designed miniature engine.

Contributor Bio
Chris Turner has worked as a draughtsman in private industry, a chief engineer for the design and development of special purpose machinery, and has taught technical studies and art.
Columbus in Space
A Voyage of Discovery on the International Space Station
The European Space Agency

Summary
In 2008, Europe’s first space laboratory was launched to the International Space Station. Ten years later, the Columbus laboratory is still circling 400 km above our heads at 28,800 km/h, providing scientists a place to run out-of-this-world experiments on everything from cold plasma technology that will destroy unwanted odors to enzymes that may slow the aging process. To celebrate a decade of European science and technology in space, this stunning book recounts the story of the Columbus laboratory from vision to mission, revealing everything from the daily operations that keep it humming, to the cutting-edge science that takes place inside. Richly illustrated with graphics and statistics of life and research in space as well as full-color photos, Columbus in Space offers a never-seen-before glimpse into the laboratory at the forefront of humanity’s exploration of our Universe—Europe’s space in space.

Contributor Bio
The European Space Agency is Europe’s gateway to space, and boasts 22 member states. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe’s space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world.

A Much Unsung Hero, the Lunar Landing Training Vehicle
James Bigham

Summary
Our nation's landing on the moon will certainly be recorded in history as one of mankind's great achievements. Initially there was a significant difference within NASA as to how the landing should be performed. Bob Gilruth, the Johnson Space Center’s director (at the time the Manned Spacecraft Center), and particularly Chris Kraft, head of its Mission Operations, felt the landing should be fully automated with manual backup. The astronauts on the other hand were of one opinion that the Lunar Module's landing had to be manually flown by its pilot. This issue and its resolution is revealed in "A Much Unsung Hero". The title comes from Neil Armstrong's biography, "First Man" where astronaut Bill Anders is quoted as characterizing the Lunar Landing Training Vehicle as "a much unsung hero" of the Apollo Program. Given the moon's gravity, one sixth that of earth, and its lack of atmosphere, it was recognized this would result in a significant difference in the control characteristics of the Lunar Module compared to those on earth, and that the LM had to be of a vertical takeoff and landing...

Contributor Bio
Jim is from Mt. Lebanon, a suburb of Pittsburgh, PA. Following his high school graduation from Mt. Lebanon High School in 1949 he received his Bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Purdue University in 1953. After graduation, he was trained and served three years in the Air Force as an instructor pilot in single engine jet aircraft. Leaving active duty for the Air Force Reserve, he joined the Boeing Company’s Transport Division in Seattle, WA as a structural engineer on its design teams including the 707, 727, and 747. After receiving a Master’s degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Washington in 1965, he joined NASA at Houston's Johnson Space Center during the Apollo Program as project engineer for the development, production, and flight testing of the Lunar Landing Training Vehicle, a free-flight vehicle used to train the astronauts in the difficult task of landing on the moon. In the Space Shuttle Program, among other projects he was responsible for the design of the Shuttle Training Aircraft, four modified Gulfstream II executive aircraft used to train...
The Little Book of Aviation
Norman Ferguson

Summary
A fascinating mixture of facts, figures, and stories, this is a must-have compendium of all things aeronautical

Humorous, baffling, and astounding aviation stories are collected here, from the pioneering days of the Wright Brothers to the present day. It covers everything from great milestones, famous names who have served, and the greatest of aircraft icons. Readers will learn about phantom pilots and aircrafts, the origins of plane spotting, unusual aircraft names, great feats, enduring mysteries; lucky escapes, and great aircrafts in the movies. It also includes a glossary of slang terminology. The trivia is limitless and will appeal to everyone, whether one needs help telling a Spitfire from a Messerschmitt, or knowing a Spitfire I from a Spitfire II!

Contributor Bio
Norman Ferguson is the author of Chronologia and The Glasgow Book of Days.

Royal Navy Search and Rescue
A Centenary Celebration
David Morris, Captain Eric Brown RN former Chief T...

Summary
Today, the sight of a helicopter speeding toward some destination is familiar enough, but take a moment to consider: is there a life at stake? Is someone in peril and on a knife edge of survival, and will the helicopter crew be selflessly placing themselves in the most dangerous of situations for the sake of saving others? Ever since the First World War, aircraft of the Royal Naval Air Service and later the Fleet Air Arm have operated from land bases and ships at sea, flying search and rescue missions. In this book David Morris, Curator of Aircraft at the National Museum of the Royal Navy, tells the incredible story of Royal Navy search and rescue from the first mission by Sir Richard Bell-Davies VC to the present day.

Contributor Bio
David Morris is the curator of Aircraft, the Fleet Air Arm Museum. He is keenly interested in the history of mechanical objects and rural history. David is also a Research Fellow at Bournemouth University and lectures regularly. He lives near Somerton in Somerset.
**British Airways**

*Engineering an Airline*

Paul Jarvis

**Summary**

With superb illustrations drawn from the archives of the British Airways Heritage Collection, *Engineering an Airline* tells the fascinating story of BA Engineering, from the earliest days of commercial aviation in the early 1920s to the present day. As the UK’s nationalised airline from 1924 until 1987 British Airways and its predecessor companies led UK civil aviation development. It is a story of technical skill, expertise and ingenuity. Curator of the Heritage Collection Paul Jarvis – who worked for over 50 years in various management positions at BOAC and British Airways – explains the complexities of running an aircraft fleet for as long as there’s been such a thing!

**Contributor Bio**

Paul Jarvis was the Assistant Company Secretary at British Airways between 1992 and 2003. Retiring in 2003 he volunteered for the honorary role as curator of the British Airways Heritage Collection. The role was to safeguard and preserve the Collection as a national resource and to develop its potential as a source of heritage information and knowledge to support British Airways’ business. Paul is 70 and has worked for nearly 50 years in various managerial roles at British Airways since joining BOAC, a predecessor company of British Airways, as a clerk on 6 June 1966. Paul is married with two daughters. He has written four published books about British Airways history.

**McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II**

*Air Superiority Legend*

Mark A. Chambers

**Summary**

This book tells the fascinating story of this truly unique aircraft’s design and development as an icon of American airpower, and relives its glorious record in the Vietnam War, various Arab-Israeli conflicts, the Cold War, and Operation Desert Storm.

**Contributor Bio**

Mark A. Chambers works for the NASA Langley Research Center and lives in Newport News, Virginia.
Zeppelin Hindenburg
An Illustrated History of LZ-129
Dan Grossman, Cheryl Ganz, Patrick Russell

A wealth of research has gone into collating the definitive photographic record of Zeppelin Hindenburg

Summary
On May 6, 1937, the pioneering Zeppelin Hindenburg, LZ-129, ended its career in flames when its hydrogen lifting gas ignited while landing at Lakehurst, New Jersey. But the airship had already completed 62 successful flights before this fateful day, catering to Nazi officials, socialites and the well-heeled. Hindenburg offered cutting-edge transport technology with luxury and style, making it a spectacle to behold on both sides of the Atlantic, and was expected to be just the first of many giant passenger Zeppelins. In this revised edition with additional material, three world-renowned experts have collaborated to create the definitive history of the Zeppelin Hindenburg. This detailed book highlights the sheer style of this mammoth lighter-than-air craft and explains the shocking disaster that signaled the end of airship travel.

Taking to the Skies
Daredevils, Heroes and Hijackings, Great Australian Flying Stories
Jim Eames

Summary
So how do you test drive a Jumbo? And why did a future civil aviation director once taxi a plane down Perth’s main street to attend a ball? From the ridiculous to the downright dangerous, the story of Australian aviation is full of tales of adventure and nation building. It is also a story about tragedy and eccentric characters with wild larrikin spirits. In this surprising, fascinating, and sometimes very funny collection, Jim Eames brings together the great forgotten and untold tales of Australian aviation. There are the stories of the Catalina flying boats that were Australia’s only aviation link to the UK during World War II, and that of Qantas’ record-breaking non-stop flight across the world. And what of the long-forgotten hijacks and the dramas of the Darwin airlifts after Cyclone Tracy? Entertaining, nostalgic, and very readable, the stories Jim tells will certainly make you want to take to the skies.

Contributor Bio
Jim Eames is author of The Country Undertaker and Six Feet Under Up in Smoke. He is one of Australia’s first aviation writers, former press secretary to the Minister for Aviation, and former Director of Public Affairs for Qantas.
BAe 146 'Whisperjet'
Britain's Most Successful Airliner
David Oliver

Accompanied by previously unpublished photographs. The quiet, rugged and versatile jet favoured by the Royal Squadron and airlines worldwide.

Summary
This book tells the full story of the BAe 146, a short-haul airliner produced between 1983 and 2002. It has been operated by several airlines around the world and an adapted version with a countermeasures suite is also part of Britain's Royal Squadron. The BAe 146 and its later version the Avro RJ are also used as VIP transport, military transports and aerial firefighting tankers. In this comprehensive book, experienced aircraft expert David Oliver provides an unparalleled analysis of the development, production, service, and deployment of this agile and adaptable aircraft. This includes its entry into airline service and breaking into the US market, military service, the launch of the Avro RJ series with its special mission variants and an overview of current airline operators. Accompanied by previously unpublished photographs, this book will be a must for aircraft and airline enthusiasts.

Contributor Bio
David Oliver has written more than 15 books covering both specific aircraft types and wider aviation and military history. He has also worked for the respected Jane's defense information publishers.

British Military Aviation in the 1970s
Malcolm Fife

Summary
The 1970s were a decade of great change for Britain’s military air arms. The RAF handed over the role of operating Britain’s nuclear deterrent to the Royal Navy in 1969. Its primary role once again became that of providing battlefield and tactical support. For this, new aircraft in the form of Jageurs and Harriers joined the ranks of the RAF. Nimrods replaced Shackletons in guarding Britain’s seaways. Several older types were phased out of service including the Belfast, Britannia and Comet. Many other aircraft, however, which were in service in the 1960s lingered on throughout the following decades. The world of the RAF also grew smaller with the withdrawal of the forces east of Suez. The Royal Navy also had its wings clipped in the 1970s with the retirement of its last large aircraft carrier for fixed wing aircraft. In its place the vertical take-off and landing Sea Harrier was delivered to the Fleet Air Arm. Helicopters now had a more dominant role. Sea Kings and Wasps operated from nearly all the Royal Navy’s warships. Unlike the other two air arms, the Army Air Corps saw its role e...

Contributor Bio
Malcolm Fife has written a number of illustrated articles for both aviation and shipping magazines, and has compiled several books on airfield histories, as well as a guide to Scottish First World War aerodromes.
King of All Balloons
The Adventurous Life of James Sadler, the First English Aeronaut
Mark Davies, Richard Branson, Don Cameron

Summary
The daring flights of the early balloonists that were the first steps on mankind’s upward journey to the Moon and beyond have been strangely neglected, and their names have been largely forgotten. This book helps to redress that situation. James Sadler was an extraordinary English pioneer who overcame many obstacles to achieve his dream of flying. Born the son of an Oxford pastry cook in 1753, he defied his lowly upbringing to become the first Englishman to build an air balloon. When not flying he applied himself to engine design and the medical uses of gases, and kept busy as a chemist to the Navy; he designed cannon praised by Nelson, firearms for the British East India Company and a prototype armoured car. At the age of fifty-seven, he returned to ballooning, after which he and his sons went on to set various records of speed, distance and altitude in a total of some 30 towns and cities in England, Ireland and Scotland. Against the vivid backdrop of Georgian England, Mark J. Davies delves into the complex life of this adventurer, exploring the ups and the downs of his amazing career...

Contributor Bio
Mark is an Oxford local historian and guide, with a special interest in the history and literature of the non-University aspects of the city, and has written and published several local interest books. This interest in the history of the ‘Town’ of Oxford, as opposed to the ‘Gown’, is one reason why the story of the pastry cook turned scientist James Sadler appealed to him so much. Sir Richard Branson, Founder of the Virgin Group, is a businessman, investor and entrepreneur. He holds Guinness World Records for crossing the Atlantic by hot-air balloon in 1987 and crossing the Pacific by hot-air balloon in 1999. Don Cameron MBE is a Scottish balloonist and founder of Cameron Balloons, the largest manufacturer of hot-air balloons in the world.

Mapping the Airways
Paul Jarvis, Keith Williams

Summary
Maps have long held a fascination for travellers and would-be travellers alike. Drawing on fascinating and unique material from the British Airways archive, curator Paul Jarvis focuses on the beautiful map artwork used over nearly 100 years of history to chart our voyages through the skies – from early adverts to twenty-first-century on-board moving maps – and the vital maps and charts used by pilots and navigators. The progression of artistic styles used through the decades and the use of maps, technical or stylised, to present vital information or to promote the appeal of air travel is presented in striking full colour. Authorised by British Airways and with a foreword by Keith Williams, the Executive Chairman of British Airways, this book shows the enduring power of maps to spark our imagination.

Contributor Bio
Paul Jarvis was the Assistant Company Secretary at British Airways between 1992 and 2003. Retiring in 2003 he volunteered for the honorary role as curator of the British Airways Heritage Collection. The role was to safeguard and preserve the Collection as a national resource and to develop its potential as a source of heritage information and knowledge to support British Airways’ business. Paul is 70 and has worked for nearly 50 years in various managerial roles at British Airways since joining BOAC, a predecessor company of British Airways, as a clerk on 6 June 1966. Paul is married with two daughters. He has written four published books about British Airways history.
The Great War Display Team
Ernie Hoblyn

A rare insight into one of Britain's best display teams, written by longtime member and early aviation expert Ernie Hoblyn.

Summary
The Great War Display Team was founded in 1988 and has since gone on to become one of Britain’s premier display teams, with a wealth of talented pilots passing through their ranks and amazing crowds with a variety of recreated aircraft including Fokker Dr1s, Royal Aircraft Factory S.E.5s, a Sopwith Triplane and an Avro 504. Having built a replica Sopwith Triplane and flown it for more than a decade as part of the team, taking part in choreographed dog fight routines, Ernie Hoblyn is uniquely positioned to offer a fascinating insight into the construction of these aircraft and the realities of flying in the First World War – including the vast differences between the handling of modern aircraft and that of machines used during the war. With a range of interesting photography and unprecedented access, this is a fascinating look at what it takes to construct, pilot and display a vintage flying machine.

Contributor Bio
Ernie Hoblyn has been a member of the Great War Display Team for more than a decade and has flown a wide variety of airplanes. He is a local author who has studied the history of the Plym Valley for years and his photographs in his first book show the rise and decline of the industry in the valley.

Spirit of the Yukon (Unabridged)
June Lunny

Summary
"Charlie [Lindbergh] was working on his plane when I arrived," writes Andrew Cruickshank as he awaits completion of his own duplicate of the Spirit of St. Louis. With this plane, Cruickshank starts the first airline in the Yukon. It was 1927, long before the legendary Grant McConachie's time. Andrew Cruickshank, a dashing and brave young RCMP officer, decides to, leave the force for the skies. Cruickshank exploits include not only bush piloting in the Yukon but stunt-flying in Hollywood, as well as piloting seaplanes out of Vancouver. While a pilot with Western Canada Airways in Winnipeg, he was part of one of the most extensive air searches of all time, the McAlpine Rescue.

Killed by a plane crash early in his career, Cruickshank had been almost forgotten by Canadian aviation history until his youngest daughter, June Cruickshank Lunny, found a treasure trove of his letters while on a family visit to England. From these letters, Lunny has reconstructed her father's adventures as a Mountie and as a bush pilot. "He was one of the top bush pilots of his day," says Peter Corley-Smith, aut...

Contributor Bio
June Cruickshank Lunny was born in Edmonton. She is a graduate of the University of British Columbia, and an honours graduate from the British Columbia Provincial Normal School. She is married, and is the mother of four sons.
MH370: The Secret Files
The Truth Behind the Greatest Aviation Mystery of All Time
Nigel Cawthorne

Summary
On March 8, 2014, Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 took off from Kuala Lumpur International Airport bound for Beijing. Less than an hour after take-off, somewhere over the South China Sea, the plane simply vanished. One eyewitness saw a burning object crash into the sea. But confusing radar signals trace tracked an aircraft taking an erratic course across the Malaysian peninsula, then on to the Andaman Sea. Did it crash there? Or did it fly on to land safely in disputed lands of Central Asia, or the top secret CIA "black site" on Diego Garcia? Two years later, the Australians are still search—at the cost of billions—and have found nothing. Was the search in such a remote place part of a cover-up to distract the world’s attention because the US Navy had, in fact, shot the plane down? The answer must be out there. Or, perhaps, hidden within the pages of the secret files.

Contributor Bio
Nigel Cawthorne is the author of Confirmed Kill, The Mammoth Book of Killers at Large, Serial Killers and Mass Murderers, and The Story of the SS.

British Aviation Posters
Art, Design and Flight
Scott Anthony, Oliver Green

Summary
From Futurism and Modernism to Art Deco and Surrealism, aviation was from its earliest days inextricably linked with revolutionary new ways of seeing the world. Focusing on the golden age of British civil aviation, British Aviation Posters shows how art and design was applied with great creativity and style to develop and promote aviation in the UK and beyond.

Contributor Bio
Scott Anthony is a Leverhulme Fellow at Christ's College, University of Cambridge. He writes for the Guardian, has taught at the universities of Oxford, Manchester and Warwick, and is a regular collaborator with the British Film Institute and the Science Museum. He is the author of Public Relations and the Making of Modern Britain (2012) and Night Mail (2007) and co-editor of The Projection of Britain: A History of the GPO Film Unit (2011). Oliver Green is former Head Curator of the London Transport Museum, and is now a freelance historian, lecturer, author and museum consultant. He has researched and curated numerous museum exhibitions and displays, as well as writing extensively on London’s transport history and design. His publications include Discovering London Railway Stations (2010), London Transport Posters (2008) and Underground Art (1990/2001). He is co-author of a new history of the London Underground, to be published in 2012 for the 150th anniversary of the world's first underground railway.
Concorde
A Photographic Tribute
Adrian Meredith, Mike Bannister

Summary
A decade after the Concorde's final flight, readers revisit one of the world's most famous aircrafts

The Concorde can surely claim to be the world's favorite aircraft with its sleek lines and glamorous design that made it an icon recognized all over the world. Traveling at twice the speed of sound at 60,000 feet, to fly the Concorde was the dream of many and the regular pastime of the lucky few. The rich and famous graced its all-first-class cabins. Photographer Adrian Meredith spent many years photographing the Concorde from every conceivable angle. Here he has collated his artwork for the first time, to present a full color tribute to this remarkable and memorable aircraft. Including information and photos from behind the scenes as well as significant milestones and detail on the passengers and personalities on board, this is a unique and beautiful photographic tribute.

Contributor Bio
Adrian Meredith has worked as a photographer in the aviation industry for 30 years. Mike Bannister is the chief Concorde captain.

The Complete Dambusters
The 133 Men Who Flew on the Dams Raid
Charles Foster

Summary
On 16 May 1943, nineteen Lancaster aircraft from the RAF’s 617 Squadron set off to attack the great dams in the industrial heart of Germany. Flying at a height of 60ft, they dropped a series of bombs which bounced across the water and destroyed two of their targets, thereby creating a legend. The one-off operation combined an audacious method of attack, technically brilliant flying and visually spectacular results. But while the story of Operation Chastise is well known, most of the 133 'Dambusters' who took part in the Dams Raid have until now been just names on a list. They came from all parts of the UK and the Commonwealth and beyond, and each of them was someone's son or brother, someone's husband or father. This is the first book to present their individual stories and celebrate their skill, heroism and, for many, sacrifice.

Contributor Bio
CHARLES FOSTER grew up with the story of the raid, as his uncle was one of the pilots who took part. He worked in publishing, journalism and design for over 30 years, and has also written widely on the subject, including a book, blog and website and many articles. He has contributed to various TV programmes and news bulletins and has been invited to be a part of the official 2018 75th anniversary events. He lives in Ireland.
The Other Battle of Britain
1940 - Bomber Command’s Forgotten Summer
Paul Tweddle

Summary
While the heroic exploits of ‘The Few’ of Fighter Command are rightly lauded, those of ‘The Many’ of Bomber Command remain overlooked. Night after night, the bomber crews ranged across Europe seeking out and attacking targets in an all-out effort to undermine the German war effort against Britain and prevent invasion. This book tells the stories of the young men who undertook perilous sorties on a daily basis, fighting hard against both the enemy and the elements. Faced with flak and fighters, exposed to the often harsh weather conditions and operating at the edge of their capabilities, for the young men of Bomber Command, this was ‘The Other Battle of Britain’.

Contributor Bio
Paul Tweddle is a Classics teacher by profession and is currently Director of Co-Curriculum and Enrichment at Holmewood House, near Tunbridge Wells. He has held a life-long passion for the two world wars and has taught aspects of the wars and run battlefield tours throughout his career. He has authored several articles for the Modern History Review on WWII, was a military obituary writer for The Annual Obituary 1985-1993, has contributed to and edited the Classics SATIPS journal and wrote Into the Night Sky: RAF Middleton St. George- a Bomber Airfield at War.

The Strangest Aircraft of All Time
Keith Ray

Summary
If your idea of a "bizarre" aircraft is pre-war DH Dragon Rapide, a bloated Boeing Super Guppy, or a BA Airbus with an "ethnic" tail design, then think again! What about . . Horatio Phillips's Multiplane with its 200 separate wings? The Goodyear Inflatoplane, a totally inflatable aircraft which needs to avoid landing near rose bushes? There was the Fieseler F1 103R, basically a V1 flying bomb with a seat, or the Nakajima Ki-115, a plane designed to take off but not to land. Who could forget the Caspian Sea Monster, a 10-engine 500-ton giant designed to fly at 500 km/hr at a mind boggling altitude of just 16 feet . . Not to mention the Hughes H4 Hercules, the plane with the longest wingspan ever, made entirely from plywood. Now THAT is what bizarre aircraft is all about!

Contributor Bio
Keith Ray enjoyed had a long career in management consultancy, after originally studying engineering at Cambridge University. He is the author of the Extremely Serious Guides series as well as Bizarre Cars, and is an avid cartoonist.
### Bristol 156 Beaufighter

Andrew Bird

Highly illustrated throughout, Andrew Bird explores the inside story of the tough multi-role Bristol Beaufighter.

#### Summary

As the Second World War loomed ever closer, the British Air Staff realised that they did not have a dedicated cannon fighter or night fighter. As the author reveals in this readable and authoritative book, the Bristol Aircraft Company soon set to work to produce what would become one of the leading RAF multi-role aircraft of the Second World War. The Beaufighter played a significant role in the Battle of Britain, painted black and swooping on its targets directed by its top secret on-board radar. The Beaufighter was soon being delivered not only to several RAF commands but also to the Commonwealth squadrons in the RAAF, RNZAF, RCAF and South African units. It was also delivered to four USAAF squadrons. The Beaufighter Mk.1F was developed for Fighter Command and the Beaufighter Mk.1C for Coastal Command. These were powered with Bristol Hercules engines. The Beaufighter Mk.II was a night-fighter version powered by Rolls-Royce Merlin XX engines. Another production variant was the Beaufighter Mk.VI maritime strike aircraft, powered by the formidable Hercules VI and XVI engines and armed with...  

#### Contributor Bio

Andrew Bird is an aviation enthusiast and expert who served in 2624 Squadron, Royal Air Force Reserves at Brize Norton between 1984 and 1986. He has written for a number of newspapers and magazines and worked as a historical consultant in documentaries for BBC radio and television as well as Channel 4.

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### Bristol Blenheim

Andrew Bird

Highly illustrated throughout, the story of one of the most versatile RAF aircraft of the Second World War.

#### Summary

Developed in the late 1930s, the Bristol Blenheim was the first RAF aircraft to carry out a reconnaissance over occupied Europe and the first to carry out a bombing raid. This book tells the story of this important aircraft which, although it often missed the limelight, performed valuable roles as bomber, reconnaissance aircraft and night fighter throughout the war. The first Mk I Blenheims entered service with No.114 Squadron in March 1937 and 1,552 were built before the Mk IV came into production, with an extended nose for reconnaissance. Most of the Blenheim squadrons were equipped with the Mk IV by September 1939. Although it outperformed the biplanes of the 1930s, the Blenheim was soon overtaken by single-engine fighters and its role was changed accordingly. In this fascinating and well-researched book, the author shows how the Blenheim adapted to various roles in different theatres of war. Apart from its reconnaissance role, it was also a pioneering night-fighter, taking advantage of the dark to reduce its vulnerability, and it also served as a long-range maritime patrol aircraft...

#### Contributor Bio

Andrew Bird is an aviation enthusiast and expert who served in 2624 Squadron, Royal Air Force Reserves at Brize Norton between 1984 and 1986. He has written for a number of newspapers and magazines and worked as a historical consultant in documentaries for BBC radio and television as well as Channel 4.
C-130 Hercules in the RAF
Clive Bennett

Summary
This book tells the full story of one of the most important aircraft in RAF service over the last fifty years. A work horse that is also astonishingly adaptable for a range of specialised operations, the Hercules is capable of carrying troops as well as vehicles, moving men from one location to another in peacetime training or inserting special forces teams on clandestine operations in time of war. The book covers the first delivery to the RAF to the C-130 C Mk. 1 Hercules in 1967 to the introduction of new versions, including the C-130K C1/C3 and C-130J C4/C5, through its myriad deployments in training, war and humanitarian operations. The book provides details of the special equipment fitted to some aircraft, including defensive infra-red countermeasures equipment and the Skyguardian radar-warning system.

Contributor Bio
Clive Bennett has written more than 10 articles for various monthly aviation publications both in the UK and the USA. He has also produced a photo article for the United States Air Force association on operations at Bagram Airfield Afghanistan.

Cessna 172
A Pocket History
Ron Smith

Summary
This small volume traces the origins of the Cessna 172 and highlights the features that have made it so successful. Comprehensively illustrated, with many previously unpublished photographs, the book includes a close-up look at an individual aircraft and highlights the differences between the many Cessna 172 and 175 variants. It discusses flying and owning the type and illustrates how the instrument panel layout, flight controls and instruments have evolved during the lengthy production run. The book finishes with a fascinating look at a number of special variants and uses, including tailwheel and STOL conversions, re-engined examples, ski and seaplane operation, banner towing and skywriting.

Contributor Bio
Ron Smith is an aeronautical engineer, pilot, aircraft owner, photographer and historian. He has previously written the five-volume British Built Aircraft series recording Britain’s aircraft industry. He is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and member of that society’s Historical Group Committee.
**Convair**

Martyn Chorlton

**Summary**

Becoming the fourth largest aircraft manufacturer in the U.S. when Consolidated merged with Vultee in 1943, Convair quickly built a reputation for designing and building some of the largest and most powerful aircraft in the world. From the XA-41 ground-attack aircraft in 1944 through to the Cv660 airliner in 1967, Convair pushed the boundaries with every project they undertook. Successes included the enormous intercontinental B-36 Peacemaker, the world's largest mass-produced piston-engined aircraft, and the Cv240 family of small airliners that continued to evolve up to the turn of the 21st century. The novelty of the turboprop-powered Tradewind flying-boat, the glamour of the F-102 Delta Dagger and F-106 Delta Dart and the brutish power and futuristic appearance of the B-58 Hustler are all trademark Convair machines.

**Contributor Bio**

Martyn Chorlton is an ex-RAF photographer and the editor of *Military Modelling* magazine.

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**RAF Air-to-Air Refuelling**

A Pictorial History

Keith Wilson

A photographic look at the history and development of the difficult and delicate process of in-flight refuelling.

**Summary**

Some of the earliest experiments in in-flight refueling took place in 1923, using a hose to transfer fuel from a hand-held fuel tank on one aircraft to the usual fuel filler of the second. However, the first practical in-flight refueling system was not demonstrated until 1935, by Alan Cobham’s Flight Refuelling Ltd. Known as the grappled-line looped-hose system, it was intended to be used to refuel heavy bombers in the Far East during World War II but the war ended before it could be used. After the war, Flight Refuelling Ltd would go on to develop the probe and drogue system still used for in-flight refueling today by the RAF as well as the US Navy, US Marines, most Western European military aircraft and Russian military aircraft as well. In this book, noted aviation expert and in-flight photographer Keith Wilson explores the history and development of in-flight refueling, one of the most delicate processes a pilot can undertake.

**Contributor Bio**

Keith Wilson has been involved in aviation publishing for more than 30 years and is probably best known for his striking air-to-air images in *Pilot* magazine. He has more than 1,500 air-to-air sorties under his belt, shooting almost 2,000 different aircraft in the process. He has photographed a very broad range of subjects, from gliders, vintage, and veteran, aerobatics, and general aviation right through high-altitude research aircraft, biz jets, commercial jets, and military fast jets. During this time he has amassed a photographic library of around 300,000 images. He has worked for a number of well-known aviation companies across Europe and flying is also his hobby. He obtained a Private Pilots Licence back in 1981 and continues to fly at every opportunity.
The Fleet Air Arm and Royal Naval Air Service in 100 Objects
David Morris

Delving into the official archives of the Fleet Air Arm Museum and the wider National Museum of the Royal Navy, David Morris tells their incredible story through a selection of significant objects.

Summary
Only six years after man had successfully flown for the first time with controlled, powered flight in 1903, the Royal Navy could already see the potential of taking flying machines to sea. Initially utilised to extend the view from the ships crow’s nest, the aircraft at sea would become one of the most influential strides forward in the history of the Royal Navy. This book uses 100 objects and key references that define the Royal Naval Air Service and Fleet Air Arm, setting them from other flying services. From aircraft and technology to training, language and recreation, the flying branch of the Royal Navy has long had its own specific set of objects, rules and traditions.

Contributor Bio
David Morris is the curator of Aircraft, the Fleet Air Arm Museum. He is keenly interested in the history of mechanical objects and rural history. David is also a Research Fellow at Bournemouth University and lectures regularly.

The Jet Provost
Martyn Chorlton

A lavishly illustrated look at the famous Jet Provost aircraft, the RAF’s first ab initio jet trainer.

Summary
Initially designed and built by Hunting Percival, the Jet Provost was a jet-powered development of the Piston Provost trainer, which only entered service five years before its more powerful younger sibling. The Jet Provost became the RAF’s first ab initio jet trainer when it entered service in 1955 and would staunchly remain in this crucial role until 1993 when it was replaced by the Turboprop-powered Tucano. During its long service career with the RAF, the Jet Provost progressed through seven marks, although it was only from the T.3 onwards that numbers began to climb. In 1960, Hunting Percival, which was renamed Hunting three years earlier, was taken over by BAC. It was under this new management that the Jet Provost was offered to a world audience with some success in Ceylon, Iraq, Venezuela and Sudan. It was at this point that a dedicated ground-attack version was created in the shape of the Strikemaster, of which 146 were built serving with a number of foreign air forces across the globe.

Contributor Bio
Martyn Chorlton penned his first small book in 2001 and to date has written many more, as well as contributing articles to a variety of aviation magazines. An ex-RAF photographer, Martyn is currently the editor of Military Modelling magazine.
I'll Take the 18
The Story of Beech 18 Freight Flying
Scott H. Gloodt

This book is about flying small cargo loads in an aircraft known as the Beech 18.

Summary
This book is about flying freight in an aircraft known as the Beech 18. It includes my stories, and stories from others, about a time when small air cargo loads were flown around the US in this iconic airplane. It is about the pilots, their cargo loads, and the weather they faced. It is about those who survived and those who didn't, all in one of the most classic airplanes ever built.

Contributor Bio
Husband, father, pilot.

Riding for the Brand
Lawrence H. Lee

"Riding for the Brand" is the personal history of Lawrence H. "Larry" Lee, who started with Western Airlines in 1943 as a baggage handler, and worked his way up to Chairman of the Board. Larry led the company during turbulent times, and through negotiations with Western's five unions when concession...

Summary
"Riding for the Brand" is the personal history of Lawrence H. "Larry" Lee, who started with Western Airlines in 1943 as a baggage handler, and worked his way up to Chairman of the Board. Larry led the company during turbulent times. He was responsible for establishing a "hub" in Salt Lake City, Utah and did so in just a few short months, and with very little capital. Larry believed in miracles, and knew they could happen with hard work and dedication. He was instrumental in negotiations with Western's five union groups, and established a profit sharing plan. The day that his retirement was celebrated in Salt Lake City in 1986, the airline reported the highest annual profit in its 60 year history.

Contributor Bio
Lawrence H. "Larry" Lee began his career with Western Airlines in 1943 as a baggage handler, and worked his way up to Chairman of the Board. Larry led the company during turbulent times, and through negotiations with Western's five unions when concession...
**Disaster on Mount Slesse** *(Unabridged)*

**The Story of Western Canada's Worst Air Crash**

Betty O'Keefe, Ian MacDonald

A gripping account of Western Canada's worst aviation disaster.

**Summary**

Mount Slesse, a jagged 2,500-metre peak near Chilliwack BC known locally as "The Fang," lived up to its evil reputation on December 9, 1956, when Trans Canada Airlines Flight 810 slammed into it, killing all 62 aboard. For five months nobody knew what happened. Flight 810 had just disappeared into the night. Adding to the sensation was the fact that the flight carried five professional football players fresh from the CFL All-Star game in Vancouver and a mystery man by the name of Kwan Song who was rumoured to be carrying a sizeable fortune in cash. Finally on May 10, 1957, a diminutive female mountaineer named Elfrida Pigou discovered the gruesome crash site, setting off a stampede of macabre treasure hunters. It wasn’t until May 25, 1995, that the BC government placed a protective zone around the debris field, declaring it a Heritage Wreck Site. To mark the fiftieth anniversary of this historic tragedy, Betty O’Keefe and Ian MacDonald have written a gripping, blow-by-blow account of western Canada's worst aviation disaster, carefully examining its context, causes and aftermath.

**Contributor Bio**

Betty O’Keefe is a journalist in Vancouver. She has collaborated on ten popular history books with Ian MacDonald including *The Mulligan Affair: Top Cop on the Take* and *The Final Voyage of the Princess Sophia*.

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**Flight of Gold**

**Two Pilots' True Adventure Discovering Alaska's Legendary Gold Wreck**

Kevin McGregor

**Summary**

On March 12, 1948, Northwest Airlines Flight 4422, a DC-4 with a crew of six, carrying twenty-four Merchant Marines from Shanghai to New York, crashed high up on Alaska’s Mt. Sanford. Air reconnaissance flights spotted the charred remains of the plane, but the site was too remote for recovery teams. Rumors that the plane had been transporting gold and diamonds immediately erupted and enticed treasure hunters to the mountain, but life-threatening conditions kept them from reaching what became known as "Alaska’s Legendary Gold Wreck."

Flight of Gold is the first-person account of commercial airline pilot and mountain climber Kevin McGregor, who with commercial and bush pilot Marc Millican, an experienced mountain climber as well, attempted to accomplish what dozens of other expeditions failed to do: discover the remains of the plane and solve the mystery of the reputed treasure. Working in secret, these two daring and adventurous explorers journeyed into the vast Wrangell-Saint. Elias National Park. Facing horrific winds, avalanches, and threats of wild animals, the courageous and determ...

**Contributor Bio**

A commercial airline pilot, retired Air Force Major, and Desert Storm Veteran, Kevin A. McGregor is an experienced mountain climber, having climbed the high peaks of Colorado, California, and Mexico, Mt. Rainier, as well as Kala Patar near Mt. Everest. He is also an avid bush pilot, who frequently flies to remote mountainous areas. With his expedition partner, Marc Millican, he has been featured on Dateline NBC, National Geographic, CNN, King 5 TV and many other television news programs. (Kevin passed away in 2015)
The Fighter Pilot's Handbook
Magic, Death and Glory in the Golden Age of Flight
Gordon Thorburn

Summary
This study takes the reader on a journey from the first flying machines in the late 19th century, to the development of the specialized fighter aircraft armed with one or more machine guns. It takes in the development of the devices that allowed a machine gun to fire through the propeller arc, the coming of aerial photography and airborne wireless, parachutes, engine design, test flying and problems of flight, including the dreaded "spin" that killed so many pilots, and the invention of aerial tactics such as the Immelmann Turn. Here, too, are the pilots who became famous. Some, like Germany's "Red Baron," Britain's James McCudden, and Eddie Rickenbacker of the US, are still well-known. In 1914 it was all new, this business of flying at the enemy. It is a story of creativity, of machines, experiments, turning points, ebb and flow, and heroes. Starting from almost nothing, the fighting men established the principles that ultimately made aircraft the most important weapon of all.

Contributor Bio
Gordon Thorburn is the author of No Need to Die: American Flyers in RAF Bomber Command.

Spitfire Stories
True Tales from Those Who Designed, Maintained and Flew the Iconic Plane
Jacky Hyams

Summary
The Spitfire is the world’s most iconic airplane. Yet the history of the Spitfire contains many hitherto hidden or little-known stories of the men and women behind the plane; not only the gifted creators and inventors, or the brave fighter pilots who triumphed in battle, but also the thousands of other people whose lives were affected by their personal connection to it—engineers, ground crew, factory or office workers, and their families. This book recounts the memories and stories of these people, from the birth of the Spitfire in the 1930s to the present day. Among these accounts is the extraordinary tale of the fighter pilot who only discovered, 50 years on, the tragic truth of his last Spitfire flight, the businessman whose blank check changed the course of the war, the 95-year-old RAF engineer who was determined to be reunited with his beloved Spit before he died, and the little girl who inspired the plane’s creation—and went on to marry a movie star. Using documents, letters and photographs from the Imperial War Museums’ unparalleled archive, plus exclusive first-hand interview...

Contributor Bio
Jacky Hyams is the author of The Female Few: Spitfire Heroines of the Air Transport Auxiliary and Bomb Girls: Britain’s Secret Army.
35 Miles from Shore
The Ditching and Rescue of ALM Flight 980
Emilio Corsetti III

Summary
On May 2, 1970, a DC-9 jet with 57 passengers and a crew of six departed from New York’s JFK International Airport en route to the tropical island of St. Maarten, but four hours and 34 minutes later the flight ended in the shark-infested waters of the Caribbean. It was, and remains, the only open-water ditching of a commercial jet. The subsequent rescue of survivors took nearly three hours and involved the coast guard, navy, and marines. This gripping account of that fateful day recounts what was happening inside the cabin, the cockpit, and the helicopters as the crews struggled against the weather and dwindling daylight to rescue the survivors, who had only their life vests and a lone escape chute to keep them afloat.

Contributor Bio
Emilio Corsetti III is a professional pilot and author whose work has appeared in publications such as the Chicago Tribune, Multimedia Producer, and Professional Pilot magazine. He lives in Lake St. Louis, Missouri.

Scapegoat
A Flight Crew’s Journey from Heroes to Villains to Redemption
Emilio Corsetti III

Summary
On April 4, 1979, a Boeing 727 with 82 passengers and a crew of 7 rolled over and plummeted from an altitude of 39,000 feet to within seconds of crashing were it not for the crew’s actions to save the plane. The cause of the unexplained dive was the subject of one of the longest NTSB investigations at that time.

While the crew’s efforts to save TWA 841 were initially hailed as heroic, that all changed when safety inspectors found twenty-one minutes of the thirty-minute cockpit voice recorder tape blank. The captain of the flight, Harvey “Hoot” Gibson, subsequently came under suspicion for deliberately erasing the tape in an effort to hide incriminating evidence. The voice recorder was never evaluated for any deficiencies.

From that moment on, the investigation was focused on the crew to the exclusion of all other evidence. It was an investigation based on rumors, innuendos, and speculation. Eventually the NTSB, despite sworn testimony to the contrary, blamed the crew for the incident by having improperly manipulated the controls; leading to the dive. This is the story of a NTSB investi...
For the Love of Flying
The Story of Laurentian Air Services
Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail

Summary
This book tells the story of Laurentian Air Services and its subsidiaries, Air Schefferville, Delay River Outfitters and more. Drawing on interviews with Laurentian's owners, pilots and ground crew, Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail explores this innovative company's colorful 60-year history from its founding in Ottawa in 1936 with Waco biplanes through the 1990s when it operated twin-engine turboprops. This book is filled with lively flying anecdotes from the cockpits of world-famous bushplanes, including the de Havilland Beaver and Otter, the Douglas DC-3 and the Grumman Goose. From daring rescues and close calls, to the filming of Hollywood’s Captains of the Clouds, Laurentian's pilots did it all. Interlaced with these fascinating accounts are stories of back-country air tourism, the mineral and hydro-power boom in Quebec and Newfoundland-Labrador and tales of flying into fishing and hunting camps in remote regions of Ungava. With an exciting collection of photographs - many never before published - this is a long-overdue book that will appeal to all who enjoy the romance of flying on the...

Contributor Bio
Danielle Metcalfe-Chenail is a researcher and writer who comes from a family of aviation enthusiasts. She has an M.A. in history from the University of British Columbia and has written articles for several Canadian publications, including The Beaver: Canada's History Magazine. She is an active member of the Canadian Aviation Historical Society.

50 Airliners that Changed Flying
Matt Falcus

Summary
The invention of the airplane was the dawn of a new way of traveling, its potential quickly realized as aircraft were developed to carry mail, and then passengers, over distances that would previously have taken many hours or even days. Successive aircraft in turn changed how we experience flight and how far we could go, introducing new standards of on-board service. Flying became an experience like no other; modern airliners offer unparalleled levels of comfort and economic benefits for their operators with levels of automation hitherto unimaginied. This book presents the exciting airliners which can genuinely claim to have changed air travel, from the early mail planes and piston liners through the emergence of the jet age, to the sleek and ultra-modern airliners of today.

Contributor Bio
Matt Falcus is a qualified pilot and the author of Airport Spotting Guides USA and World Airports Spotting Guides.
**Aviation Disasters (6th Edition)**
The World's Major Civil Airliner Crashes Since 1950
David Gero

**Summary**
Flying as an airline passenger is, statistically, one of the safest forms of travel. Even so, the history of civil aviation is littered with high profile disasters involving major loss of life. This new edition of the authoritative work on the subject brings the grim but important story of air disasters right up to date. David Gero assembles a list of major air disasters since the 1950s across continents. He investigates every type of calamity, including those caused by appalling weather, mechanical failure, pilot error, inhospitable terrain and hostile action. *Aviation Disasters* is the authoritative record of air disasters worldwide.

**Contributor Bio**
David Gero is the author of *Early Aviation Disasters* and *Military Aviation Disasters*.

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**BAC One-Eleven**
The Whole Story
Stephen Skinner

**Summary**
One of the bestselling aircraft of British civil aviation, the BAC 1-11 took to the skies for the first time in August 1963, with an order book for 60 aircraft. More than half the orders were from the United States, an unprecedented situation for a British civil aircraft. The only aircraft wholly designed and built by BAC, it remained in production throughout the entire 17-year history of the organization, performing strongly even when profits were at a low. After flying commercially for the last time in March 2002, here the 1-11 is celebrated in style 50 years after its maiden flight. Skinner combines original research with a multitude of images and detailed appendices to consider what transpired in those five decades and the place the 1-11 holds in British aviation history.

**Contributor Bio**
Stephen Skinner is an avid aviation enthusiast, and has been since he watched the maiden flight of the BAC One-Eleven in 1963. He has written numerous articles and books on aviation, and he regularly reviews titles on behalf of the Royal Aeronautical Society.
Beyond the Spitfire
The Unseen Designs of R. J. Mitchell
Ralph Pegram

Summary
Reginald Mitchell’s death at just 42, soon followed by the defense of Britain by pilots flying his finest creation, the Spitfire, elevated him to legendary status. He spent his whole career as a designer with Supermarine, whose products came from his pen or those that worked under him. Histories focus on the successful aircraft; those that failed to make the grade tend to be glossed over. But beyond this is a large body of concepts, early designs and projects that have never seen the light of day, the ideas generated by Mitchell and his team that never left the drawing board; stepping-stones on the way to later aircraft, sketched out concepts that withered on the vine, and projects that failed to attract orders. This book attempts to look at the entirety of Mitchell’s portfolio in perspective. It features three-view B&W layout drawings for the many projects and aircraft, and full-color CGI rendering of selected projects.

Contributor Bio
Ralph Pegram is the author of Schneider Trophy Seaplanes and Flying Boats.

Boeing in Photographs
A Century of Flight
Martin W. Bowman

Summary
This mighty company evolved from the humble Pacific Aero Products Company, incorporated in Seattle in July 1916 and renamed Boeing Airplane Company in 1917. Boeing’s 100-year history spans decades of rich achievement and technological development, first with the manufacture of sea-planes, then fighters and, from the 1930s onwards, huge bombers, innovative transports and finally, gigantic airliners, missiles, rockets and vehicles for moon exploration. Boeing constantly evolved, setting out to develop an entirely new jet transport, and in 1954 the innovative 707 appeared. The 727 and 737 airliners quickly followed and in 1969 the revolutionary 747. By 1975 the “Jumbo Jet” was being produced in seven different models and new versions continue to be developed to this day.

Contributor Bio
Martin W. Bowman is the author of over 80 books on military and commercial aviation, including The Mighty Eighth at War.
Bristol Brabazon
Graham M. Simons

Summary
A pictorial history of the futuristic Bristol Brabazon using original manufacturer’s illustrations and photographs

The Brabazon—the name evokes the immediate post-war optimism of civil aviation. The giant airliner was built by Bristol Aircraft in 1949 to fly transatlantic routes from the UK to the United States. However, the plane proved to be a commercial failure when airlines felt that it was too large and expensive to be useful. Large and luxurious, it carried only 60-80 passengers, and had a range of 5,000 miles, a 225 foot wing span, and eight engines buried in the wings. Now, with previously unpublished material and illustrations from the original Bristol Brabazon sales brochure among other sources, the Brabazon’s 1930s-style elegance is displayed once again, celebrating its design, construction, and sheer luxury—a fitting outcome for such a paragon of post-war optimism and an aircraft still considered by many to be the foremost in propeller-driven civil aviation.

Contributor Bio
Graham M. Simons is an aviation writer and historian. His titles include Concorde Conspiracy, Mosquito: The Original Multi-Role Combat Aircraft, and Valkyrie: The North American XB-70.

Classic Gatwick Propliners
Tom Singfield

A glorious full colour celebration of the golden days of classic propeller-powered airliners at London’s second airport

Summary
Aviation photographer and author Tom Singfield, an ex-Gatwick Air Traffic Controller, has long dreamed of collating a book showcasing the glory days of Gatwick’s classic airliners. Many aircraft enthusiasts preferred Gatwick to Heathrow because of its eclectic mix of new jetliners and old propeller airliners, and Gatwick’s accessibility for enthusiasts, photographers and the general public in the 1960s/70s was superb. For a small charge, visitors could walk along two open ‘fingers’ that extended from the Terminal building to view airport activity up close without any restrictions, allowing aircraft photographers to capture nearly every arrival, and with a quick visit to the south side maintenance area in the days before high security, they could walk the ramp there for even more aircraft pictures. This full-colour book is the result of nearly 30 years of searching for the very best images out there.

Contributor Bio
Tom Singfield started work as an Air Traffic Control Assistant at Heathrow Airport in 1969 straight from Grammar school. He stayed there until 1978 when he trained to become an Air Traffic Control Officer. A devotee of aircraft ‘spotting’ at Gatwick, he went on to work there as an ATCO until 1992 when the Approach Radar service moved to the London ATC Centre at West Drayton. He retired after 37 years in 2005. A busy aviation writer and photographer with a collection of slides in excess of 50,000, he lives in West Sussex.
### Concorde: An Icon in the News

**Mirrorpix**

The story of Concorde, told through the camera lens of the media, from construction to final flight

**Summary**

Concorde’s first flight was on 2 March 1969, taking off from Toulouse for what was described as a ‘faultless’ maiden trip lasting 27 minutes. After that it took its place in history as surely the most iconic airliner of all time, as beloved by the lucky few on board as by the masses below, casting eyes upwards hoping for a glimpse of that famous profile. Concorde enjoyed an exceptional career, but disaster struck with the tragic Paris crash in 2000 and it seemed after that the world was changing and Concorde’s days were numbered. Retired at last in 2003, its emotive last flight saw its many fans gathering to pay tribute to the end of an era. This collection of photographs follows Concorde’s story through the eyes of the media who documented its every move from construction to final journey. Including many passengers, whether well-known faces or lucky competition winners, these stunning photographs from the Mirrorpix archives look back over the stellar career of a marvelous aircraft.

**Contributor Bio**

Mirrorpix has granted access to its formidable photo archives to create this beautiful photographic history.

### Early Aviation Disasters

**The World's Major Airliner Crashes before 1950**

**David Gero**

**Summary**

A prequel to the successful *Aviation Disasters*, covering crashes prior to 1950

Using the same format as its predecessor, this book examines major aviation catastrophes that occurred in the early days of commercial flight, prior to 1950. Long before the days of wide-bodied jets and supersonic travel, two, three, and four-engine airplanes; flying boats; and airships made their way over land and sea, connecting cities, countries, and continents in what was a then revolutionary mode of transport. Some of these flights ended in tragedy, and these catastrophes are thoroughly reviewed in this illustrated book. The book recounts the Hindenburg disaster in 1937, the disastrous mid-air collision between an airliner and a fighter aircraft over Washington DC in 1949, and the loss of the British Star Tiger and Star Ariel transports, less than one year apart. Many other less well-known and even forgotten disasters are also covered in this fascinating new volume.

**Contributor Bio**

David Gero has more than 30 years experience as a writer and magazine editor and has worked in television production for more than 25 years. He appeared as a consultant in a Discovery Channel program on aviation accidents and is the author of *Aviation Disasters*. 
**Fairey Rotodyne**

David Gibbings

**Summary**

Fairey’s Rotodyne (a British compound autogyro intended for commercial and military applications) was considered to be one of the iconic projects of the 1950 and 1960s and a bright future was planned for the aircraft. Widely believed to be a revolutionary design, it was cheap, fast, and capable of vertical take-off and landing in a small space. An aircraft ahead of its time, there has been little published on the Rotodyne. This book, by Rotodyne expert David Gibbings, seeks to fill a gap in aviation literature and offers a long-awaited full, illustrated, and in-depth history of the Rotodyne, many of whose features are still valued by organisations such as NASA, highly in demand and used to this day.

**Contributor Bio**

David Gibbings is a retired RAF navigator and flight test engineer for helicopters and aircraft. He worked on the rotodyne and with Westland, retiring as Chief Flight Test Engineer. Awarded the Kelly Johnson award for outstanding achievement in his field by the Society of Flight Test Engineers, he was the first recipient for the award outside the U.S. A qualified private pilot, David lives in Somerset where he now writes articles and gives lectures.

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**From Airbus to Zeppelin**

**Facts, Figures and Quotes from the World of Aviation**

Norman Ferguson

**Summary**

With riveting facts, figures, quotes, and statistics from the high-flying world of aviation, *From Airbus to Zeppelin* has it all. D is for Desert Island Discs: just what would Dambuster Guy Gibson have liked on marooned on his desert island? E is for Everest: did you know that two Scotsmen were the first to fly over the magnificent mountain? F is for Faster than the sun: which aircraft was the first to fly faster than the Earth’s rotation? This is a must-read for anyone—and may even win the reader a pub quiz or two!

**Contributor Bio**

Norman Ferguson was in the Air Training Corps and became champion in Aircraft Recognition in 1982, coming second in the British National finals. He is the author of *The Little Book of Aviation*. 
Junkers Military Aircraft of World War Two
Mark A. Chambers

Summary
Prior to and during World War II, the Junkers Aircraft Company of Dessau, Germany, produced several aircraft that revolutionized warfare. Among them were the Ju-87 Stuka, key to the success of the Blitzkrieg, and highly versatile bomber and transport aircraft including Junkers Ju-86, Junkers Ju-52, Junkers Ju-90/290, and later Ju-88. This illustrated history reveals the history of the company, and the many key aircraft to play a vital role in World War II. From initiating unprecedented advancements in structural design to producing advanced turbojet engines and radical aircraft that provided a glimpse of the future of aviation, the Junkers Aircraft Company proved to be a true pioneer in the aviation world.

Contributor Bio
Mark A. Chambers is a contractor for the NASA Langley Research Center. He has previously written Flight Research at NASA Langley Research Center, as well as articles for Aviation Magazine. He lives in Newport News, Virginia.

Lancaster
Reaping the Whirlwind
Martin W. Bowman

Summary
The narrative description and condensed history of the Lancaster’s construction, combat career and post-war service, bought together to tell the complete, concise history of the world’s most famous aircraft of all time and undoubtedly the finest bomber of World War 2. A superlative colour section of 50 photos of the BBMF Lancaster and the Canadian Warplane Heritage Lancaster (the only two Lancasters still flying) are featured in what is a unique photo section to complement the 150 mono contemporary images, many of which have never been before published. Appendix sections, detailed and expert captions and other material complement the exciting narrative which includes a special chapter on the Dam Busters to coincide with the release of the new movie by Peter Jackson and the unveiling of the Bomber Command Memorial in Hyde Park, London.

Contributor Bio
Martin W. Bowman is the author of 150 books, his experience built up from many years of painstaking and fact-finding research, interviews and correspondence with contributors in America, Europe and throughout the world. Bowman has also flown in relief missions in Somalia and Bosnia as well as flying in the Lancaster.
R.J. Mitchell
Schooldays to Spitfire
Gordon Mitchell

Summary
This book tells the definitive story of how the Spitfire, Britain's WWII single-seat fighter plane, was designed, built, and tested, and how close it came to not happening at all.

R101
A Pictorial History
Nick Le Neve Walmsley

Summary
At the time of her construction in the late 1920s, His Majesty's Airship R101 was the largest flying object ever made—as big and luxurious as an ocean liner, a Titanic of the skies designed to link the far-flung corners of the British Empire within days. As Britain recovered from the horrors of the trenches, R101’s graceful lines, vast size, and luxurious accommodation came to represent the supreme self-confidence and hopes of a nation. But that unclouded vision was fatally colored by personal ambition, heroism, weakness, and political intrigue that touched many lives and reached a terrible climax on a storm-lashed hillside in France in the early hours of October 5, 1930. This book is the first to tell her story through contemporary photographs and actual material used during her construction. By returning to original sources, Nick Walmsley challenges the long-held view that R101 was a bad aircraft built by careless people. Atmospherically capturing the heady days of the 1920s, R101: A Pictorial History has wide appeal to aviation enthusiasts, social historians, and anyone fascinated...

Contributor Bio
Nick le Neve Walmsley edited the internationally respected Dirigible, the house magazine of the Airship Heritage Trust, for many years. He is an acknowledged expert in lighter-than-air travel, having acted as a technical adviser on the subject for the BBC, Anglia TV, and Channel 4.
The B-52 Story
Martin W. Bowman

Summary
The story of one of the world's most famous aircrafts and the finest bomber of the post-war era

The B-52 first flew on April 15, 1952. During the Cold War, Strategic Air Command's fleet of B-52s were at a moment's readiness to make a one-way trip to targets in the Soviet Union and the road to perdition, or destruction. SAC's motto was "Peace Is Our Profession," although General Curtis E. LeMay maintained they were already "at war." The B-52 symbolized America's nuclear defense posture in the Cold War with the Soviet Union. Dr. Strangelove appeared in 1963, a searing black comedy featuring B-52s in the leading role; and who can ever forget Slim Pickens astride a nuclear bomb rodeo fashion as it descends from the bomb bay of a B-52? The B-52 has been upgraded many times and has assumed several new roles. Apart from the formidable threat it provided during the Cold War, it has played a significant part in all U.S. overseas military operations since Vietnam. The more recent include Desert Storm in 1991, the Balkan Conflict, Afghanistan, and the liberation of Iraq. The B-52 is still in ser...

Contributor Bio
Martin W. Bowman is the author of more than 80 books on military and commercial aviation, including The Hercules Story and The Hunter Story.

The Quest for Speed
Air Racing and the Influence of the Schneider Trophy Contests 1913-31
Mike Roussel

Summary
This new book charts the impact of the Schneider Trophy on aircraft design, and how air racing focused both flying skills and aircraft capability. In the early 20th century, interest in flying, building, and competing aircraft developed at a furious pace. The Trophy's enforced break during World War I saw the loss of some of the pilots and an increased focus on speed in aircraft construction; when the contests restarted in 1919, a new breed of pilots took part, with combat and aerobatic experience. During the "Golden Years of Aviation," there were clashes between government sponsorship and private venture, and resounding defeats that focused designers such as Reginald Mitchell into designing specific racing machines. The government eventually began to sponsor the British entries, and the RAF HighSpeed Flight was formed to fly the racers, finally winning the Trophy outright in 1931, when the shadow of war was looming.

Contributor Bio
Mike Roussel is the author of Joe Smith: Spitfire's Forgotten Designer and the co-author of Shipwrecks of the Cunard Line and The Union Castle Line. He is an active supporter of Solent Sky Aviation Museum.
**Yesterday We Were In America**  
**Alcock and Brown, First to Fly the Atlantic Non-Stop**  
Brendan Lynch

This successful book describes one of most momentous flights all time, the first non-stop crossing of the Atlantic in 1919

**Summary**

Alcock and Brown’s first non-stop 1919 Atlantic flight was arguably the most significant aviation feat after the Wright Brothers’ 1904 flights. The first crossing of an ocean, the longest distance ever flown by man, it was a triumph of navigation, flying skill and rare courage. Mancunians Alcock and Brown survived continuous cloud, snow and ice and a near-fatal stall in their open-cockpit Vickers Vimy, as well as a deafening damaged exhaust and non-functioning wireless. With no modern aids and depending solely on dead reckoning, they landed in Derrygimla, Galway, only 20 miles north of their target destination, having covered 1,880 miles in their 16-hour marathon from Newfoundland to Ireland, the longest distance flown by man.

**Contributor Bio**

Old enough to have met Brendan Behan, Norman Mailer and Bertrand Russell, Brendan Lynch is a former racing cyclist and driver. He is a member of the Irish Writers Union, PEN and the Guild of Motoring Writers. A follower of pacifist philosopher Russell, he spent a month in Brixton prison for anti-nuclear weapon activities. He has reported and contributed motorsport features to media ranging from The Times, Observer and Daily Mail to the Irish Times, The European and overseas periodicals.

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**Alarmstart: The German Fighter Pilot's Experience in the Second World War**  
**Northwestern Europe – From the Battle of Britain to the Battle of Germany**  
Patrick G. Eriksson

New paperback edition - The experiences of the German fighter pilots in the Second World War, based on extensive recollections of veterans as well as primary documents, and diary and flying log book extracts, with photographs from the veterans themselves, many never previously published.

**Summary**

This book charts the experiences of the German fighter pilots in World War II, based on extensive recollections of veterans as well as primary documents, diaries, and flying log books, with photographs from the veterans themselves. There are no more than a handful of WWII Luftwaffe members alive today. Patrick Eriksson had the foresight to record their experiences first-hand. Some witnesses ended up as senior fighter controllers, and one was even a Luftwaffe psychologist. The recollections and views of the former pilots are put within the historical context of the German aerial war. This first volume covers Poland, Denmark, and Norway, the Phoney War, the invasion of France and the Low Countries, the Battle of Britain, combating the RAF sweeps in the West, and finally, the Battle of Germany.

**Contributor Bio**

Patrick G. Eriksson has devoted many years to research for this series of books. He returned to primary sources and, crucially, as an associate member of the German Air Force Veteran's Association since 1974, he has interviewed and corresponded with more than 100 former members of the Luftwaffe.
**Battle of Britain Voices**
37 Fighter Pilots Tell Their Extraordinary Stories
Jonathan Reeve

The most comprehensive collection of fighter pilot accounts ever published, together with 150 photographs, many in colour.

**Summary**
July 1940, and Britain is the only European country which hasn't caved in to Hitler's Third Reich. Hitler's stated aim was to "eliminate the English home country as a base for the continuation of the war against Germany." A Nazi invasion of Britain was set for September 15, but the prerequisite was air supremacy—control of the skies over Britain to permit Blitzkrieg tactics and the successful crossing of the Channel by hundreds of thousands of German troops. The fighter pilots of the RAF stood in their way against the numerically superior Luftwaffe. The quality of first-hand accounts left by the Battle of Britain fighter pilots is astonishing. Many were written in the midst of the epic air battle: a hastily jotted-down diary, letters written to young wives, a contemporary interview with a journalist or a radio broadcast, and most poignant of all, the short books that were written to while away the weeks stuck in hospital bed while recovering from wounds received in battle. Some were written up in the cold light of day later in the war or just after, but they all share one feature—the...

**Contributor Bio**
Jonathan Reeve studied History at the University of Liverpool. He has been a history book publisher for the last 15 years and has been responsible for bringing back into print several forgotten memoirs written by Battle of Britain fighter pilots, including *Gun Button To Fire* by Tom Neil, DFC.

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**Hurricane Manual 1940**
Dilip Sarkar

**Summary**
Though less iconic than the nimble Spitfire, the Hawker Hurricane was a vital stalwart in the British war effort. The Hurricane was a more stable gun platform than the Spitfire, more rugged, and was used in more challenging theatres of war. An amazing array of leaflets, books and manuals were issued by the Air Ministry during the Second World War to aid pilots flying the Hawker Hurricane fighter. Here, for the first time, they are collated into a single book. An introduction is supplied by expert aviation historian Dilip Sarkar. Sections include Pilots' Notes, aircraft recognition and combat reports.

**Contributor Bio**
Dilip Sarkar has been fascinated by the Battle of Britain since childhood, he remains both moved and inspired by the story of Churchill's fabled Few, those young airmen who stood between freedom and a Britain dominated by Nazi Germany. Since the 1970s he has met and interviewed more Battle of Britain pilots than any other historian. He has researched the subject thoroughly and has published over thirty books, titles which include the only biographical works formally endorsed by the families of both Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader and Air Vice-Marshall Johnnie Johnson. In 2003, Dilip was made an MBE for services to aviation history, and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society in 2006. He lives in Worcester. For more information please see www.dilipsarkarmbe.co.uk.
Flying Beyond the Syllabus
What You Weren't Taught in Groundschool
Ryan Domenick

Summary
This is for those pilots who aren't satisfied with mystery. You know how planes work. You know the principles. But maybe you aren't quite sure how to prove them, or explain them in satisfying detail. This is for those who don't mind a little math, but aren't seeking an aeronautical engineering degree either. If you've read the Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge and passed your Private Pilot and Instrument Rating check-rides, you're more than equipped with the prerequisite knowledge this text requires. You won't pass an aeronautical science course by the time you're done, but you might blow your instructor's mind, and maybe teach them a thing or two. You know what, when, where, and why. Now learn how. The concepts and answers discussed include:
• How the lift equation is formulated from fundamental principles of physics
• What centrifugal force actually is and how exactly it effects stall speed
• How the concept of vector spaces explains sweptback wing principles
• A mathematical explanation of induced drag and its relationship to velocity
• A thorough explanation of how and w...

Contributor Bio
Ryan Domenick is an airline pilot and flight instructor from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has consulted on several aviation education projects. He is the author of three books: Flying Beyond the Syllabus: What You Weren't Taught in Groundschool; Answers in Time: A Layman’s Apologetic; and Tenebrism.

Corsair KD431
Preserving The Time Capsule Fighter Revisited
David Morris

Summary
A unique paint archaeology project that revealed a true time capsule object - Corsair KD43 at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton

Contributor Bio
David Morris is Curator of Aircraft at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton. David joined the museum as an apprentice engineer in 1981 and went on to head the Aircraft Conservation department as Curator of Aircraft. He has led many conservation, restoration and exhibition projects at the museum.
Flying Boats
Air Travel in the Golden Age
Charles Woodley

Chronicling a glamorous era in air travel, when journeys took days and were things to be savoured

Summary
From the early 1930s until the end of that decade long-distance air travel was the preserve of the flying-boat, which transported well-heeled passengers in ocean-liner style and comfort across the oceans. By the end of World War Two things had changed. The development of large landplane bombers had brought about the construction of long concrete runways which could be used after the war by a new generation of large transport aircraft. Commercial flying-boat services resumed in the post-war years but their days were numbered. This book covers the whole spectrum of passenger flying-boat services, from their golden age to their twilight years.

Contributor Bio
CHARLES WOODLEY is a lifelong aviation enthusiast. He is the author of several books and many magazine articles on historical aviation subjects, including the successful Heathrow: The First 50 Years and BO AC: A History for The History Press. A long-time member of Air-Britain, he founded and ran for over ten years the Grampian Airtouring Society, the local aviation enthusiasts' society for the Aberdeenshire area. He lives in Aberdeenshire.

Mayday
How Warring Egos Forced Qantas Off Course
Matt O'Sullivan

Summary
The inside story of how Qantas flew off course—a story of big egos in a high-stakes fight for supremacy of the skies, and of a company of tribes at war with itself. Power-plays, public spats, strategic blunders, betrayal, and revenge: the fall of Qantas has more intrigue and drama than any in-flight movie. How did a national icon become a national liability? Founded in 1920 by two WWI pilots and a grazier, the "Flying Kangaroo" is one of the oldest and most respected airlines in the world. Famous for never having lost a jet aircraft in flight, in late 2014 Qantas had a crash of a different kind, recording one of the largest losses in global aviation history. A sequence of crises on the ground and in the air have all taken their toll. At the center of the decline has been Alan Joyce, controversially appointed CEO in 2008. His supporters applaud him for tackling problems ignored by his predecessors. His critics accuse him of unconscionable mismanagement and irreversible damage—from ongoing feuds with predecessor Geoff Dixon and Virgin boss John Borghetti (a one-time leadership rival), ...

Contributor Bio
Matt O’Sullivan is the deputy business editor for the Sydney Morning Herald and The Age, has been writing on the aviation industry for more than seven years. He has also worked for the Australian Financial Review and for national newspapers in the UK such as The Times and The Independent, and in New Zealand for the Dominion Post.
Final Destination: Disaster
What Really Happened to Eastern Airlines
George Jehn

*Final Destination: Disaster* is a book that will open the eyes of many about the inner working of those that are running the show at the very top level of any corporation. Former Astronaut Frank Borman was the CEO at Eastern Airlines when the demise was destined to happen. You have greed at the cent...

Summary

*Final Destination: Disaster* informs the public, for the very first time, what actually precipitated the controversial sale of Eastern Air Lines, at one time the second largest airline in the free world, to Frank Lorenzo’s Texas Air Corporation, which led to its certain demise. It is written from an eighteen-year veteran Eastern pilot insider’s perspective, as the author was intimately involved in many aspects of the tumultuous events that culminated in the sale.

Contributor Bio

George Jehn is a college graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree. He flew as a pilot for Eastern Airlines for approximately eighteen years, from 1970 until 1988 on the Boeing 727, Douglas DC-9 and Airbus A-300 jets. He left Eastern to work for another large airline in 1988. During his time at Eastern, he spent six years as an elected pilot Representative from Eastern’s New York pilot base and was simultaneously a six-year Member of the Board of Directors of the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA).