

WIN A FREE FLIGHT WITH TAKE FLIGHT!



“Inspiring the pilots of today, training the pilots of tomorrow”. It is clear to see they are achieving this and much more besides and the club is a huge credit to Mike and his team.

Whether you talk to the staff, look at their website or pop into their Wellesbourne HQ, it's clear to see that Take Flight Aviation are a progressive flying school and club that like to do things a little differently with a certain style and panache that is often lacking in the industry.

Recently voted Small Business of the Year 2017, the company based at Wellesbourne Mountford Airfield in Warwickshire for over ten years and also now with a sub branch at London Oxford Airport in Kidlington offer flight training and light aircraft hire for PPL holders.

The company have smart facilities, a fleet of over fifteen aircraft and provide members no limits general aviation aircraft hire without the restrictions imposed by many flying schools; the hassle associated with flying groups or the financial burden of ownership.



Sales and Marketing Director Hana Smiddy says “When most private pilots learn to fly there can be many limitations to taking advantage of their new licence.

The cost of aircraft ownership can be out of reach for some or simply not cost effective; groups are fraught with problems; whilst hiring from flying schools involves vying with instructors and students for a limited time slot. Take Flight provides the answer. A member can take an aircraft away with no daily minimum hours' requirement”. In addition, the club hold monthly club meetings and a variety of fly outs home and abroad where pilots can expand their horizons and share experiences.

Take Flight Aviation Owner, MD and property entrepreneur Mike Roberts has built the business from one aircraft and a dozen members in year one to over 250

active members and a fleet of more than fifteen aircraft in Year ten.

He says “Our success is due to the enthusiasm of the team and trying to identify what was wrong with old fashioned flying clubs,” but admits he would not have been able to have grown the business relying on it as an income stream.

“Margins in flying are traditionally low and I've been lucky to have another business to provide an income for my lifestyle. It's great that our team have a similar



outlook and are keen to extend pilots boundaries and teach because of their love for flying” As well as PPL training Take Flight offer advanced training for the IR(R) and night ratings, aerobatic certificates, tail dragger conversions and multi engine ratings.

The company have also recently expanded into fractional ownership with five shares on offer in a Piper Malibu Matrix. “This gives our pilots the chance to

move on to the next level knowing that the aircraft is being operated and managed by a business experienced in the field. “It really is the ultimate flying machine for the private pilot who wants to get places with friends, family or business associates in cabin class, jet style, luxury” says Mike.

The company has certainly recognized the industry problem that so many Pilots fail to renew their PPL after a few years. Their website shows the extent of their trips to places such as the Scottish Isles, Jersey, France, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands. They have been as far as Venice and Salzburg and have an annual trip to Cannes to attend the Monaco Grand Prix.

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