

# Flightlines



## In Profile

**Mike** (I liked the product so I bought the company!) **Roberts**

My name is Mike Roberts and I have taken over the club from the shy and retiring Roy Foster and we are now trading as Take Flight Aviation Limited, of which I hold the unenviable title of Managing Director.

I started my flying training at Wellesbourne in 1985 at the flying school which was at the location that Take Flight is now, but for one reason or another I never completed my training at that time and only completed my PPL after an intensive ground school and flying at Bournemouth in 2004.

I joined Take Flight on passing my PPL because of the flexibility offered in hiring aircraft and maintained my membership even after purchasing my own aircraft as I enjoyed the facilities on offer and the camaraderie of the other members.

It was never my intention to get involved in an aviation business heeding the warning of others, how to make a million in aviation - start with two, but after a chance conversation with the former owner, I identified an opportunity to expand the club and make the excellent facilities available to other aircraft owners at Wellesbourne and other corporate operators who may like to use our lounge facilities. You will have no doubt identified this from our marketing hence promoting Aircraft Hire, Owner Facility, Private Aviators Club and VIP Lounge.

My business background is in property and I own a portfolio of commercial investment property that I have built up from scratch. I am also a Director of a small property development business, involved in the refurbishment of character property mainly in Warwickshire. I also work occasionally as a freelance broadcaster having spent ten years as a presenter in local radio for the BBC and Independent stations. I am hoping that the marketing skills I have developed in my other businesses will help attract new members to the club to add to the core of existing enthusiastic members.

**Welcome** To our first new club newsletter FlightLines which we hope will be of interest to you, and make it a focal point for information and future events. Over the next couple of months we hope that all the new initiatives and ideas that our "new leader" has in mind will come into play and you should regularly access our bookings website e-allocator for news broadcasts and messages, while you're on line take a look at our new club website [www.takeflightaviation.co.uk](http://www.takeflightaviation.co.uk) which will have links to useful aviation sites and will become your source of information for anything to do with the club.

With regards to the immediate future of the club, I am hoping to replace the two seat aircraft in the next few weeks which was sold some months ago to coincide with the arrival of our new part time instructor and examiner, who will be available to offer members advanced training, bi-annual flight reviews and the like from Sunday 25th June 2006.

You will have already noticed various improvements to signage and other elements in the club, which have received a positive response from members. There are no plans to increase membership costs for existing members, which I feel offers great value for money, given the standard of the facilities on offer. The aim of the club is still to offer discounted aircraft hire to members without the normal conditions associated with hire from traditional flying schools, meaning that members can hire aircraft for a day weekend or even a week without minimum hours requirements.

The club also aims to promote advanced flight training and friendship between members in our great surroundings. With an exciting programme of summer social events and fly-outs, I look forward to welcoming new and existing members alike to the club.



# Dads Army invades France



## Le Touquet Flying Trip



*A Personal Recollection by Mike Darby*

The initial leg was to basically take us via Henlow then onto Bovingdon, Stapleford and onto Lydd before crossing the channel to Le Touquet. Mike Roberts, and his trusty crew consisting of Clive Meredith, Martin Jones and Viv arrived in Le Touquet before the 172 apparently due to getting caught in the Jet Stream over Anglesey.

After filing the flight plan for the return journey the troop set off on foot for the town centre following Martin who knew a short route via Boulogne. This was no doubt in order to avoid the some 100,000 mines left during the war (Le Touquet was one of the most mined towns in France during the second world war).

Walking the streets to the centre one could almost identify with one's past as Le Touquet used to be a refuge for many deserters during the Napoleon era, till it was sold for 120,100 F in 1837 and subsequently planted out with Pine Trees, Poplars Elms and Alders which line the roads leading to the town centre.



Armed with a new bout of enthusiasm in Take Flight, two aircraft departed Wellesbourne Mountford for Le Touquet on 22nd March 2006. Mike Roberts was to pilot his Cherokee 180, G-AVBG with 3 passengers and sick bags and Bob Shuttleworth the Club 172 G-BUJN with Roy, Mike Darby and Alan Woolf.

After an inverted low pass, Mike left EGBW and headed West for Le Touquet via the Brecon Beacon VOR with Martin manning the radio whilst Bob finished his power checks and lined up for departure on 36.



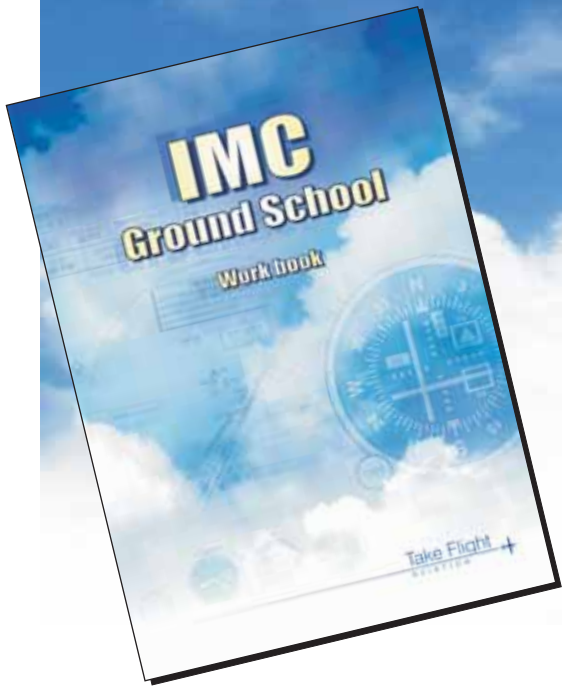
Roy relaxed into a personal medley of vintage Edith Piaf whilst working out how much profit he was making on a row of newly developed open plan buildings in Iraq, (which he was going to sell with Take Flight later that month). As for the rear seat passengers, Mike D was busy thinking of new jokes and Alan Wolf was admiring the leatherwork on his flying jacket (which he was told in the pub where he bought it was worn by the legendry Captain Brown who shot down the Red Barron)!



After reaching the centre it was decided to find the nearest "nosh house" and sample the local cuisine. My steak was beautiful despite the fact it was so rare it took two of us to hold it down on the plate, and Clive tucked into the two hundred or so prawns he ordered trying to locate the meat inside. After an hour or two it was a slow amble back to the airfield, stopping by the beach for the group photo. G-AVBG was re-fuelled on arrival so despite the walk round we were soon back in the air on our way back Wellesbourne via a different route, with Alan piloting the 172 and Mike D doing radio. Roy and Bob this time had taken up rear gunner positions and spent their return journey catching flies.

The route was to take us via Seaford on the south coast and Midhurst routing up the central UK to Compton back to the airfield.

The day was great fun and everyone enjoyed the experience despite some members visiting Le Touquet many times before.....Roll on the next trip!



## Head in the Clouds - Into IMC

The end of the intensive four week course on "how to pass the written IMC exam" came to a close with passes for all who took the exam.

Congratulations to Mike Roberts, Mick Littler, and Clive Meredith. They will move on to the exciting "reality check" of flying the requisite number of hours staring at dials and not enjoying the view and practising the VOR/DME let down plates.

Mind you with the current weather pattern an IMC rating will be useful for a get me home card more regularly than not.



## Need your Logbook Signing off?

Welcome to John Eburne who joins the club as a new member. For those of you who do not know John yet, he has been instructing since 1998, and has over 2,500 hours experience. John is a Flight Examiner and so can conduct Bi Annual Flight Reviews and PPL Skills Tests, renewals and revalidations. He's only ever been a "Civvy" flyer but is committed to quality instruction and flight safety, John is keen to help plan fly-outs and has plenty of experience in overseas trips

He's available on Sundays initially, (see e-allocator) but runs his own diary so if someone needs a check ride or something during the week, he might be able to help with some advance notice.

Availability begins 25th June.

## LOST? I am a Survivor

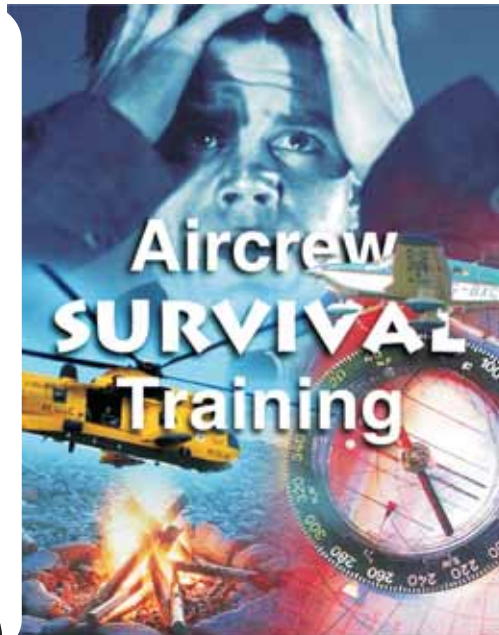
Ever thought what to do if you ever have a "controlled flight into terrain" in the hills far from home with no mobile coverage, and how to care for your passengers until help arrives.

Then Adrian Woolrich-Burt will be giving a lecture on "survival"

It's a very interesting and informative talk, and even if you only come away with a couple of tips they may stand you in good stead if that fateful day ever occurs.

Theoretical training is scheduled for July 7th, a Friday, and the second event, a practical session with fireside grub down at the fire bay, early in August.

Cost £20 per head per evening, including nosh and a glass of wine.



Learn how to survive that  
**"IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN TO ME"**  
situation at this highly informative  
lecture tailored specifically for the PPL

## Welcome to our first Corporate Business

**The Nutricius Group, was founded by Nick Rowley in 2004, and we welcome Nick and his team to the club.**

The Group is designed to offer high quality sales and marketing support to travel related businesses, and is, amongst other services, able to offer private and corporate clients access to various aircraft sales, dry & wet leases & full aircraft charters. They have successfully supplied various aircraft ranging from twin seat private aircraft, to eight seat corporate aircraft & 160 seat airliners. Finally, as a new service, utilising the Take Flight Aviation facility they will be providing corporate aircraft handling services.

06-06-06  
Good Omens!



The 6th June 2006 turned out to be a good omen and third time lucky for our latest club fly out to Waterford in Ireland despite our return journey being over the sea at St Georges Channel at 6.06pm!

Demon jokes from Mike Darby, fiery landings from Mike Roberts and Bob Shuttleworth playing Devils Advocate added to one Hell of a day with members getting in the Irish spirit (well Guinness actually). This was for medicinal purposes only as both Mike and Bob were invalidated out with a painful operation and back problems - we should have gone by air ambulance.

**Don't Forget** 1st Wednesday in every month for the regular Club night at Hampton Lucy meet from around 8.30-9.00pm

## Events

*Always check e-allocator for messages or the notice board for updates to the calendar*

## Grand club opening & Barbeque

18th June 1.00pm - 6.00pm



To tie in with the Wings and Wheels event and the ground runs of the Vulcan, we will be holding a barbeque and hospitality day for all members old and new as well as friends and relatives, (it's fathers day after all!) We will also be inviting airfield members as well. Do come along, and enjoy the food and drink. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Duxford 8th-9th July

**Ever thought of flying into an air show?**

The flying legends air show at Duxford on the 8th or 9th of July is one of Europe's best historic flight air shows.

It only caters for piston engined aircraft pre and post war. There is nowhere else in the world that you can see 12 spitfires and 15 mustang fighters' tail chasing in the (hopefully) blue skies above. With the sound of merlins ringing in your ears.

Give Bob Shuttleworth a call 07968802527 or e-mail [bob.shuttleworth@cornerstone-ltd.com](mailto:bob.shuttleworth@cornerstone-ltd.com) he has a spare seat or two on the 172, or how about a fly out, you just need to phone Duxford for a slot. More details on e-allocator. Lets make it a club outing.



## Next Fly Out

*Get your name down early for our next trip. Date to be confirmed. Other suggestions for fly-outs welcome.*

### Saturday 29th July

Early Departure - Brunch at Perranporth Airfield  
Perranporth - Scilly Isles Airport for remainder of the day  
Scilly Isles Airport - Lands End Airport  
Overnight stop in Sennen Cove with Live music in local pub

### Sunday 30th July

Leisurely breakfast  
Coastal Walk to famous Lands End Rocks and Sign  
Afternoon Departure Lands End - Wellesbourne

### The Longest Day - Midsummer Event

Look out on e-allocator for further details and date for this and future events.

Take Flight   
AVIATION

Aircraft Hire  
Owner Facility  
Private Aviators Club  
VIP Lounge £40pm  
C152 £65ph  
C172 £89ph wet inclusive

[www.takeflightaviation.co.uk](http://www.takeflightaviation.co.uk) 01789 470424

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