

The Air Pilot's **Manual**

Volume I

Helicopter Flying Training



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Helicopter Flying Training

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Editorial Team

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Geoff started flying at Biggin Hill before joining the RAF whilst at University. His first tour was flying Whirlwind helicopters on Search & Rescue at RAF Leuchars, during which he was awarded 2 immediate Queens Commendations.

He then became a Flying Instructor initially on fixed wing before returning to helicopters to instruct on Search and Rescue. He remained instructing and examining, holding the RAF's prestigious A2 instructor ratings for both helicopters and fixed wing, before “retiring” from the RAF in 1988. On leaving the RAF, Geoff worked for various helicopter companies both as a commercial pilot flying VIP charters, pleasure flying, loadlifting, fire-fighting and pipeline and powerline patrols, and as a freelance helicopter and examiner, holding, for 15 years, 5 examiner ratings including Flight Instructor Examiner and Senior Examiner.

Geoff retired from flying recently, 56 years after his first flight in an aircraft, having flown some 25,000 hrs, including over 18,000 instructional hours, and having trained over 300 instructors and commercial pilots. His first flight in a helicopter was in a Bell-47 as was his last. He has

flown all of the helicopter types mentioned in this book. He is now an author and contributing editor to Pooleys aviation books.

He is the author of the best selling book "Helicopter Aerodynamics Made Simple (Well....relatively simple!)" now published by Pooleys.

Dorothy Saul-Pooley LLB (Hons) FRAeS FRIN

Dorothy held both an ATPL(A) and CPL(H) and was an instructor and examiner on aeroplanes and an instructor on helicopters for over 25 years. For 15 years she was Head of Training of a school dedicated to running Flight Instructor and examiner courses at Shoreham Airport. For 20 years Dorothy was also a CAA Flight Instructor Examiner (Senior Examiner).

Dorothy originally qualified as a solicitor in 1982 and acted for many years as a specialist dealing with aviation insurance liability issues and aircraft accident investigation work. She has lectured widely on aviation law and insurance matters. This highly unusual combination of qualifications and experience led to Dorothy's appointment as one of the Honorary Solicitors to the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (GAPAN).

Dorothy is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and of the Royal Institute of Navigation. She is the Past Chairman of the GAPAN Instructor Committee, of which she was a founding member and she was the prime instigator of the Guild's biennial joint Forum with the Central Flying School at RAF Cranwell for Senior Flight Instructors, both civil and military. She is also Past Chairman of the Education and Training Committee. Dorothy was elected to the post of Master of the Honourable Company of Air Pilots (formerly GAPAN) for the year 2014-2015, the first woman to hold that post. Dorothy currently holds the post of Chairman of the Professional Flying Instructors Association and is the Governor of the British Section of the 99s, an international women pilots' organisation.

In 2003, Dorothy was awarded the Jean Lennox Bird Trophy for her contribution to aviation and support of Women in Aviation and the British Women Pilots Association (BWPA). In 2013, Dorothy was honoured to receive the prestigious award of a Master Air Pilot certificate from GAPAN. In 2015 she was awarded the Brabazon Cup by the BWPA for her outstanding achievements in aviation.



In 2019 Dorothy was awarded the Pike Trophy by the Honourable Company of Air Pilots for her outstanding contribution to the maintenance of civil flying instruction standards.

As consulting editor for Air Pilot Manuals and for Pooleys Flight Equipment, Dorothy has written, edited and contributed to more than 30 training manuals and has published many articles in aviation magazines, legal journals and on-line publications.



Daljeet Gill BA (Hons)

Daljeet is the Head of Design & Development for Pooleys Flight Equipment and editor of the Air Pilot's Manuals, Pre-flight Briefing and R/T Communications as well as many other publications. Daljeet has been involved with the editing, typesetting and designing of all Pooleys publications and products since she joined us in 2001. Graduating in 1999 with a BA(Hons) in Graphic Design, she deals with marketing, advertising, exhibition design and technical design of our manufactured products in the UK. She maintains our website and produces our Pooleys Catalogue. Daljeet's design skills and imaginative approach have brought a new level of clarity and readability to the projects she has touched.

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A Condensed History of the Air Pilot Manuals

For over 35 years the Air Pilot Manuals have led the academic training of pilots in the United Kingdom and in many countries around the world.

I first met Trevor Thom, a professional pilot and natural teacher, in Melbourne during a visit to Australia in January 1985. He already had his series of PPL Manuals for the Australian market and I asked him to produce a series for the New Zealand market where we had a small aviation business. Having completed this task, Trevor immediately began writing the first of the Air Pilot Manuals for the United Kingdom market and this project began in earnest on 5th December 1985.

Both Trevor Thom and Robert Johnson commenced the task in my office at Felden, Hertfordshire. By the end of the following year, all four volumes were completed and were published in February 1987. By the end of that year, we estimated that 95% of all the UK Flying Schools were using our manuals. Volumes 5, 6 and 7 followed, so completing the full series which also now includes the Question & Answer Exam Books Volumes 1-9 and the Air Presentations series of PowerPoint Teaching Aids.

Unfortunately, Trevor Thom had a serious accident at home which prevented him from continuing with the editing of the manuals. His rights were eventually sold to David Robson, another experienced pilot and natural teacher, who progressively improved the drawings and brought colour into the manuals for the first time.

Over the years there have been many assistant editors, in particular Peter Godwin, whose help I first asked for in the very early days with Trevor Thom. The rights in the Air Pilot Manuals are now vested with the Pooley family and they continue to be edited by Dorothy Saul-Pooley, with the assistance of Daljeet Gill who is responsible for the design and layout, and are published from our offices at Cranfield. The APM series of manuals are used in many countries around the world.



Robert Pooley MBE CStJ FRIN FRAeS

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