

FREDDY STRINGER



FLYING BOFFIN

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FOREWORD

It is rare but not unusual for a scientist to be a pilot, but it is certainly unusual for the two qualities to be coupled with a very competent artist. Moreover, coupled with an artist who paints aircraft to look as though they actually fly. That, in itself, is sadly a rare skill.

'Flying Boffin' is a first-class account of the life of a remarkable man. After all, he is still flying as an instructor in his 80's! But what astonishes me is his incredible memory and his surprising stock of what I would term documentary evidence.

Freddy followed a career not greatly dissimilar from my own. During 41 years in The Royal Air Force, particularly in the latter half, I was much concerned with the technical aspects of aviation. The Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough – Freddy's temple, so to speak – played a large part in my life. I therefore found 'Flying Boffin' a most interesting and fascinating book, at times very nostalgic.

It is always a pleasure to read of the life of someone who unashamedly enjoyed his work and life in general.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Neil Wheeler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler
GCB CBE DSO DFC* AFC FRAeS



“A superior aviator is one who uses his superior knowledge and judgement to avoid flying in conditions which require his superior skill”

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