

MAD ABOUT FLYING!



Celebrating 100 Years of Aviation



DAVID MARSHALL & BRUCE HARRIS

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THE AUTHORS

Captions for paintings in the preliminary and section opening pages:

Page 1: The Avro 504, designed in 1914 with Roy Chadwick's involvement

Page 2: McDonnell F4E Phantoms, 1970

Page 3: Percy Pilcher made several flights in his own gliders, inspired by Otto Lilienthal's designs.

Page 4 (below): The Airspeed Ferry, 1934

Page 4/5 (right): Sidney Cotton's Lockheed 12a

Page 6 (left to right): The French Bernard Ferbois V-2 racing monoplane, 1924; a Pan-Am Sikorsky S-42 Clipper, Samoan Ciupper, 1937; the Me. 262 Schwalbe (meaning "Swallow") jet-fighter.

Page 7 (left to right): Roy Chadwick's ill-fated Avro Manchester; Sperry's Aerial Torpedo, 1915–1919; the Boeing B-47 Stratojet.

Page 8: Supermarine Seagull III, 1927

Page 9: The Lockheed U-2, 1955

Page 11: The Do.31-E-IVSTOL

Page 69: The magnificent Mirage IV-A, 1959

Page 141: The Bristol Beaufighter, 1941



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O, I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
 And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
 Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
 Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things
 You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung
 High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
 I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
 My eager craft through footless halls of air.
 Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
 I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace
 Where never lark, or even eagle flew;
 And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
 The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
 Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

High Flight by John Gillespie Magee
 (killed in action with the Royal Canadian Air Force)

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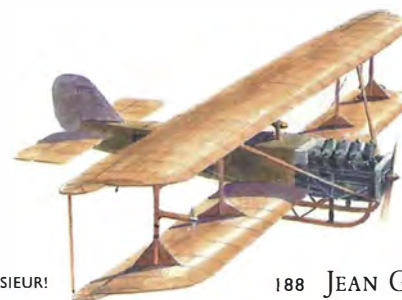
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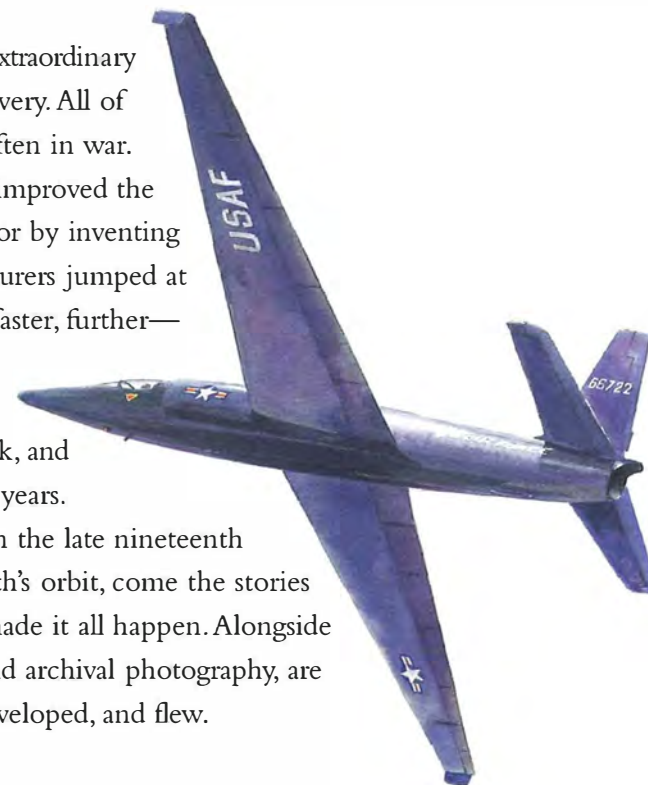
INTRODUCTION

At altitudes of up to 40,000 feet, sleek, powerful aircraft carry thousands of passengers across oceans and continents—around the world. Today's airliners evolved from ancestors so frighteningly flimsy it's a wonder they could fly at all. Yet they did—because of men and women with foresight, courage, and remarkable creativity.

The focus of aviation's development so often rests with the aircraft—the structures of wood and canvas, and the engines made of plastics and metal—but what of the people? What of the individuals who planned to fly, who did the math, who built the machines, and who flew them—sometimes to hell, but not always back.

They are aviation's dreamers, doers, and daredevils: extraordinary humans with towering skills, personalities, and bravery. All of them made contributions—sometimes in peace, often in war. Many converted vivid dreams into reality. Others improved the possibilities with a leap forward in aircraft design, or by inventing instruments that became essential to flight. Adventurers jumped at the chance to burst the boundaries, to fly higher, faster, further—whatever the consequences. Never before in human history have such amazing and rapid achievements changed the way we live, think, work, and travel as those that have occurred in just over 100 years.

From those pioneers who first took to the air in the late nineteenth century, to the astronauts now pushing out of Earth's orbit, come the stories of the dreamers, doers, and daredevils who have made it all happen. Alongside them, captured in story-telling colour paintings and archival photography, are the magnificent flying machines they designed, developed, and flew.





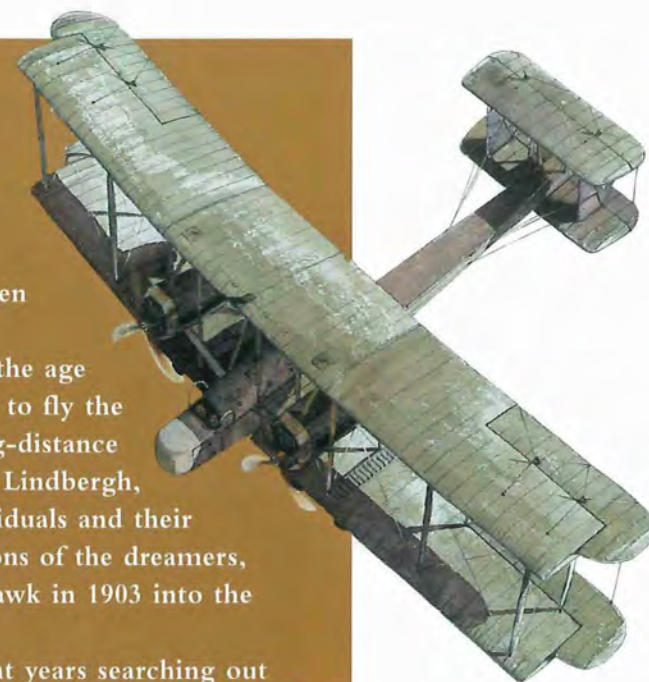
MAD ABOUT FLYING: Celebrating 100 Years of Aviation tells the stories of the amazing people behind aviation's greatest moments.

These men and women—aviators, navigators, fighter-pilots, designers, engineers and test pilots—explored the frontiers of flight with foresight, courage, and remarkable creativity, from the earliest days when men such as Otto Lilienthal were hurling themselves off hill tops in flimsy gliders to modern times when John Glenn, at 77, circled the Earth in the Space Shuttle.

The dramatic stories of those trail blazers who changed the world forever bring the age of powered flight to life—stories of the daring young Harry Hawker, who attempted to fly the Atlantic, of fighter pilot John Cunningham, pioneer flier Francis Chichester, and long-distance pilot Bert Hinkler. Also featured are the famous figures of the Wright brothers, Charles Lindbergh, Howard Hughes, and Charles Kingsford Smith. Lively biographies of many key individuals and their true-life adventures take us into the realms of aviation's great leaders. The contributions of the dreamers, doers, and daredevils turned the pioneering flight by the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk in 1903 into the reality of aviation as we know it today.

These fascinating stories are the work of aviation artist David Marshall, who spent years searching out the exploits of the great aviation figures and illustrating them with over 200 colour paintings. As co-author, Bruce Harris provided further research and stories to assist in capturing the key elements in the story of flight. Marshall's paintings of the aircraft are technically correct. His colour portraits of 70 individuals are also featured. Aircraft specification details and a timeline of events at the back of the book complete a wealth of reference.

This stunning book makes compelling reading and a fascinating visual feast for aviation novices and aficionados alike. It is destined to become a landmark publication in the records of flight's great path.



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