



My passion for aviation first began with my first flight at the age of 14 with the Air Cadets flying a Grob Tutor. Many more successive flights with the Air Cadets soon made me realise that I wanted flying to be a career and looked into many career options. Outside of school from the age of 15 to 18 I pursued additional flying opportunities such as gliding and motor gliding. I was given the rare opportunity during my A levels to complete a motor gliding scholarship with the Air Cadets teaching me many of the basic flying skills and ending with a very exciting solo flight. The opportunities I received from the Air Cadets over a four year period were exceptional in providing me with crucial inter-personal skills, driving me towards becoming a professional pilot and I recommend this and similar organisations to others searching for an adventure. During my A levels I also completed the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award provided by Pershore High School staff which taught me how to work effectively in a team and lead a group in unusual situations, skills which have been vital in my progression to becoming an airline pilot and which have proved vital selling points during interviews since.

I left Pershore sixth form in 2012 with successful A level results and got into my first university choice to study Air Transport with Commercial Pilot Training (BSc) at Buckinghamshire New University. The intense 3 and a half year course began by understanding course modules such as airline ground operations and the legislation encompassing aviation. One of the most exciting modules in my first year of studies was to gain my private pilot's licence out of Wycombe Air Park gaining around 50 hours of flight time and my wings to operate light aircraft. After a short summer break working full time at Birmingham Airport to gain some valuable industry insight I went off to Southampton for 6 months completing 14 Air Transport Pilot Licence exams. Although a stressful, challenging venture at the time, I embraced the subjects and loved every second even if I was buried in the books. The 6 months of hard work all paid off leaving the training facilities in Southampton with an overall average of 90.4%, allowing me to continue my flight training and complete my hour building out of Larnaka Airport, Cyprus. The hot lifestyle of flying around the mountains, over baron plains of farmland, coastal areas and a long cross country flight to Beirut (Lebanon) over the crisp blue waters of the Mediterranean made for a fun packed, life changing 2 months.

My final year at university took me back to Buckinghamshire New university to complete the final year modules, including a 10,000 word dissertation, researching the public's perceptions of Low-cost Long-haul flights and ending the year with a First Class Honours degree. Over the summer I began

the final stages of my flight training learning how to fly multi-engine aircraft such as the Diamond DA-42, featuring state of the art Garmin glass cockpit instrumentation, gaining my instrument rating allowing me to fly in all sorts of weather, gaining my Commercial Pilots Licence and getting a taste of how to operate a jet aircraft in a 2 crew cockpit environment. The training process has shown me that I am capable of achieving my goals and ambitions with hard work and perseverance and am now fortunate to have been given a first officer position with Monarch Airlines operating their Airbus A321 aircraft from Birmingham Airport. After 6 weeks of intense type rating training and an exciting day at Prestwick practicing many landings I am now flying passengers to sunny resorts across Europe. My life experiences building up to gaining my first airline job has allowed me to develop many skills vital to my future career and recommend to everyone to follow your dreams and aspire to be the best that you can be.