

## Important facts

### Early methods of flight include:

The first kites in 400 BC designed by a Benedictine monk in China



The first hot air balloon flew in 1783 with animals as crew. This was made of cotton strips and paper by the **Montgolfier brothers**

**The Wright brothers (Orville and Wilbur)** were pioneers of flight. They invented, built and flew the world's first successful aeroplane. Their aircraft was called the Wright Flyer and it flew about 120 feet.

### Amelia Earhart

On 20<sup>th</sup> May 1932, Amelia took off from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland (USA) aboard a bright red single engine airplane. Despite bad weather and thick clouds, she became only the second person and the first woman to across the Atlantic Ocean solo. She received many awards for her achievement. Although she was the most famous woman pilot in the world, Earhart wasn't satisfied and wanted to be the first woman to fly around the world. On 1<sup>st</sup> June 1937, Amelia and Fred Noonan, her navigator, took off from Miami, Florida. They flew a number of flights, eventually getting all the way across Africa and Asia to New Guinea in the South Pacific. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, they took off from New Guinea to fly to Howland Island in the Pacific Ocean, but they were never seen from again..

## Key Vocabulary

Aeroplane	Powered flying machine
Aircraft	Flying machine
Cabin	Room or space on an aircraft or ship
Cockpit	Small space where the pilot of an aeroplane sits 
Elevators	Hinged areas on the horizontal stabilisers at the tail end of an aeroplane used to control the angle of flight and lift on its wings
Engine	Machine that provides power
Flying machine	Machine that can fly through the air
Fuselage	Body of an aircraft
Glider	Light unpowered aircraft with wings
Hot air balloon	Large bag filled with hot air or gases that can carry passengers through the air in a basket 
Jet	Aircraft with powerful jet engines
Landing gear	Wheels and other parts that bear the weight of an aeroplane
Rudder	Used to steer the aeroplane



**Orville and Wilbur Wright** built and flew the Wright Flyer.



**Wycombe Air Park**, also known as **Booker Airfield**, is an aerodrome located in Booker near High Wycombe. It originally opened in 1941 as RAF Booker and was involved in training during World War 2, remaining a military establishment until 1965.



**Amelia Earhart** became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. She attempted to fly all the way around the world with Fred Noonan. They disappeared over the Pacific Ocean.

## Timeline

<b>1485</b> Leonardo Da Vinci designed the ornithopter-a wing flapping aircraft.	<b>1783</b> A duck, sheep and a chicken flew in a hot air balloon.	<b>1849</b> A glider designed by George Cayley lifted a 10-year-old boy into the air.	<b>1903</b> Orville Wright made the first flight travelling for 12 seconds. Later that day, Wilbur travelled for over 59 seconds.	<b>1930</b> Amelia sets the women's flying speed record of 181.18 miles per hour.	<b>1932</b> Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly solo across the North American continent and back.	<b>1937</b> Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan depart from New Guinea. They disappear over the Pacific Ocean.
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