

# Master classes with On-Track Aviation

On-Track Aviation, a flight training school based at Wellesbourne Mountford Aerodrome in Warwickshire, has recently achieved the accolade of having three resident Master Instructors.

Head of Training Alan Newton and fellow On Track instructor Mike Grierson were both awarded Master Air Pilot Certificates by the Honourable Company of Air Pilots at their annual Trophies and Awards Dinner held last October in the Guildhall, London. And a third On Track instructor, Jon Cooke, was awarded recently with a Master Certified Instructor Certificate by international Master Instructor accrediting authority Master Instructors LLC.

On Track Director and Head of Training **Alan Newton** is an RTF Examiner, Flight Examiner, GR Examiner, Senior Examiner and Flight Instructor Examiner on both land and seaplanes. During a 17-year career in the Royal Air Force Alan saw operational tours on the Victor during the Falklands conflict and the VC10 during the Gulf War. He also spent many years as a flying instructor on the Tucano and Jet Provost teaching both ab-initio and qualified pilots, gaining an A2 Instructor Category. After leaving the Royal Air Force Alan joined Cathay Pacific where he has flown the B747 Classic and now flies the B747-400 and 747-800 alongside his instructing/exam-

ining activities at On-Track.

**Mike Grierson** is an RTF Examiner, Flight Examiner, Senior Examiner and a Flight Instructor Examiner. With a long career in the Royal Air Force, Mike served as a navigator on the Victor, Hercules, VC10, Devon and DC3. In addition, Mike graduated from the Staff Navigation Course, instructed at the Royal Air Force Officer Cadet Training Unit and was the Operations Support Manager for the Tristar. Mike then joined the CAA as a Training Standards Inspector in 1995, retiring in May 2008. In addition to his recently awarded Master Air Pilot Certificate, Mike was previously awarded the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (GAPAN, now renamed The Honourable Company of Air Pilots) Master Air Navigator Certificate in 2000.

**Jon Cooke** is a Senior Examiner, Flight Instructor Examiner, Flight Examiner, Class Rating Examiner, Instrument Rating Renewal Examiner, Air/Ground Operator Examiner, GR Examiner and RTF Examiner. Awarded a flying scholarship whilst in the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) at school, Jon went on to complete his PPL and then his instruc-



Alan Newton



Mike Grierson



Jon Cooke

tor's certificate before becoming an instructor at Clacton Aero Club, then Halfpenny Green and Wellesbourne. He also flew the de Havilland Tiger Moth and Dragon Rapide for Classic Wings at Duxford. His airline career has taken him worldwide flying the Handley Page Herald, B737-3/4/500, B777-200 and B747-400 and now he is an Airbus Captain for a major UK airline. Jon has flown and instructed on a wide variety of vintage and modern aircraft, and retains his passion for flying and instructing. He owns a Vans RV6 and is currently Chairman of the Pilot Coaching Scheme and Head of Training for the Light Aircraft Association (LAA).

On-Track Aviation was founded in 1997 and specialises in training for professional pilot qualifications. The school is the first Approved Training Organisation (ATO) specialising in part time Instructor Courses, in addition to offering a combined CPL and FI course for individuals aiming to become career instructors. On-Track Aviation also holds the distinction of being the only UK ATO approved to deliver Seaplane Instructor Courses on single engine aeroplanes as well as training and testing for the SEP (Sea) Class Rating and the Seamanship Examination.