

## Helping Wings Business Plan 2022

*“Jersey’s flying Charity - Enabling the disadvantaged and disabled of all ages to share the exhilaration and fulfilment of flying”*

Jersey Charity Commission – number 27

### **Introduction**

Since 2008 Helping Wings has provided opportunities for more than 1000 people who have experienced significant challenges in their lives to experience the joy of flight in a light aircraft. We do this in a number of different ways.

We started by offering around the Island flights to disabled or disadvantaged children and young people on three set days each year. Subsequently we have offered the freedom of flight to adults and children either as a passenger in a light aircraft, taking control in a one off trial lesson or even pursuing a course of ground school and flying training. The equipment we provide allows qualified disabled pilots the opportunity to hire an aircraft and enjoy flying with their friends and family.

Helping Wings is a registered Jersey charity and is a member of the Association of Jersey Charities. A change of name to Helping Wings from Helping Hands took place in September 2011. The Constitution and Committee membership details are attached at Appendix 1. We have no paid staff and the flying costs on our Children’s, Young People’s and Joint Wetwheels events is covered by our volunteer pilots. This keeps our costs down and means all donations are used for the direct benefit of students and guests.

Helping Wings which currently has 98 member supporters, and a pool of 39 volunteer pilots and ground crew continues to enjoy a close working relationship with the Jersey Aero Club who allow use of their premises and with Synergy Flight Training who provide the training we have funded.

### **Activity in 2021**

Following an enforced break due to the Covid pandemic in 2020, a more limited programme of events was held in 2021 than in recent years due to continued health restrictions.

However, despite these limitations we hosted three successful Helping Wings days. In June we hosted a day for adults and others who would not enjoy the “traditional” customary younger children’s event, offering flights around the Island to 38 guests. In July we flew 20 guests as part of a joint event with Wetwheels. Flying on the October day for children was badly affected by poor

weather but nonetheless 49 participated in ground based activities and 10 flew at later dates with their volunteer pilots.

Because of the diverse needs, wishes and developmental ages of the children young people and adults participating. Helping Wings is flexible about which event guests choose to attend. A total of 68 guests as well as their families and/or carers were flown around the Island at these events. This was a lower number than usual due to health restrictions but nonetheless a welcome relaunch for our charity

As with previous Helping Wings days the children and their carers were enthusiastic in their feedback to the pilots and the organisers. Parents who have been afraid to book air travel previously because they were unsure about their child's reaction have been given the confidence to do so after the child has flown in a Helping Wings day. Each participant leaves a Helping Wings event with a Certificate, a photograph if requested, a cap and a "goody" bag. Helping Wings are grateful to the Rotary Club of Jersey for their assistance in funding these events.

In September Helping Wings assisted the Royal Air Squadron a visiting UK flying organisation who provided 16 flights for Jersey children and young people

During 2021 Helping Wings also re-launched its Flying Awards which cover the cost of flying training to those facing significant challenges in their lives through disability or other factors. These two awards were generously sponsored by the Ports of Jersey and the Butlin Family Charity Trust.

Thanks to sponsorship from Ports of Jersey, and the Sir James Knott Trust, A total of 10 scholarships have been awarded to local people with a variety of disabilities or life changing medical conditions since 2013.

In addition, 7 scholarships have been awarded from Helping Wings funds

Helping Wings owns a hand control to allow people with lower limb disabilities to use the rudder pedals in a PA28 aircraft. Aerobility, a UK disabled flying charity were generous in sharing their time and expertise to help us with this project.

## **Planned activities in 2022 - 2025**

### 1. Three Helping Wings Days each year

These will provide a flight around Jersey in a Light Aircraft for approximately 60 disabled and disadvantaged children and young people, accompanied by a Carer and often a brother or sister. One of the days will be jointly hosted with Wetwheels.

## 2. Trial lessons and air experience flights

We shall continue to offer disabled and disadvantaged people on an individualised basis using Synergy Flight Training and our pilot members according to the needs and aspirations of the beneficiary.

## 3. Publicise flying training for the disabled in Jersey

Disabled people may not be aware that they will be welcomed at Jersey Aero Club and may be able to learn to fly a light aircraft with the freedom this can bring. The number of applications for our scholarships is in single figures and we believe there are likely to be many more people who could benefit but either do not know about us or who suppose wrongly that their disability or disadvantage means they could not apply. Local publicity is therefore important and can be generated through the local media and organisations such as JSAD and Enable.

Whilst our priority is our local population there is a potential market for disabled visitors from outside of Jersey learning to fly or hiring light aircraft this and will be explored with Visit Jersey and the Jersey Aero Club.

## 4. Flying Bursaries

Helping Wings will continue to raise funds to assist Jersey resident disabled people and those facing significant life challenges with the cost of trial lessons and flying training through the Jersey Aero Club and Synergy Flight Training

## 5. Helping Wings aircraft

The purchase of the hand control and its loan to Synergy Flight Training will increase the range of disabled people who can access private flying training.

At the present time demand for disabled flying can be met using the available resources but the situation will be monitored and if it can be justified an aircraft purchase considered perhaps in partnership with another provider. At Helping Wings we believe in supporting the integration of facilities for the disabled with mainstream provision.

Helping Wings - Key Financial Bullet Points

		Year to Jul-20	Year to Jul-21	Year to Jul-22 (f'cast)	Year to Jul-23 <i>Projection</i>	Year to Jul-24 <i>Projection</i>
£ sterling						
<b>Income</b>						
Awards Funded		4500	3000	8500	6000	6000
Other Donations		2633	1780	1936	1500	1500
Other						
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>7133</b>	<b>4780</b>	<b>10436</b>	<b>7500</b>	<b>7500</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Flying Expensed		-2512	0	-2200	-4500	-5500
Activity Days		-1563	-847	-1800	-1600	-1600
Sundry Expenses		-805	-481	-645	-650	-650
		-4880	-1328	-4645	-6750	-7750
<b>Bank Balance</b>						
Opening		30,608	32,861	36,313	42,104	42,854
Closing		32,861	36,313	42,104	42,854	42,604
<b>Notes</b>						
Awards	POJ	2000	3000	2000		
	Butlin			5000		
	Other	2500		1500		
<b>Keys Financial Objectives</b>						
		1	Maintain Awards income level			
		2	Equalise Awards income and expensed usage			
		3	Sustain but not increase bank balance			