

POPULATE YOUR COCKPIT

There's nothing worse than a scale model, particularly an open cockpit type with no pilot figure in residence. Some time ago, Wendy Norman came to the rescue of her aero-modelling husband with a suitable pilot figure for his latest creation.

For a few years on now, **Perfect-Pilots** have offered a growing range of hand-made bespoke pilot figures that actually look human but were lightweight, adaptable and tough. A range of male and female 1/4 and 1/3 scale pilot figures in both full body and partial body versions are now available, each individually handmade and painted.

Bodies are made from a combination of lightweight foams for a full figurine with articulated limbs, so the pilots can be made to fit the confines of the cockpit. Alternatively, partial figures, basically head and bust, can be supplied in heights to suit customer requirements.

Heads, hands and feet are cast from lightweight polyurethane resins and are available either unpainted or individually hand painted in high quality artists' paints before a fuel-resistant coating is applied (if required).

Flying suits, of whatever era, are hand-sewn from materials chosen to represent scaled down versions of the full-sized article and can be adapted to suit the aircraft and style of pilot - a pioneer biplane, a World War Two fighter or modern glider.

In addition to the range of standard

pilot figures, Perfect Pilots offers a bespoke service and welcomes requests for pilot figures to suit specific aircraft or ages of flight.

To ensure that these fully meet the modeller's requirements, Wendy will base these bespoke pilots on reference photos and other information supplied by the customer.

Intended further additions to the range include fully moulded 1/4, 1/5 and 1/6 pilots and a range of accessories including harnesses, 'silk' scarves, sunglasses, oxygen masks, control columns and similar items to suit the pilots. Versions offering servo-driven head rotation are planned and a 1/2 scale pilot range is also possible if there is sufficient demand.

Prices vary depending on the size, finish level, and bespoke options but guide price for a painted standard full body pilot with flight suit or trousers and 'leather' jacket is £110 for 1/3 scale and £75 for 1/4 scale.

For more information

on Perfect Pilots or to complete a survey to guide future developments please visit Richard and Wendy Norman's website:

www.Perfect-Pilots.com

