



## Mandy Hickson

**One of the UK's first female fast-jet pilots and the second woman to fly a Tornado GR4 on the front line**

Finding a love of flying early in life, Mandy Hickson fought hard to achieve her ambition to be a Royal Air Force pilot. She was only the second woman to fly a Tornado GR4 on the front line, completing three tours of duty and 45 missions over Iraq.

## Mandy's biography

### About Mandy Hickson

When life is on the line, pilots must be rigorously trained and exercises carefully planned and evaluated. There is much we can share with business from such a careful [strategy](#), training, planning and debriefing. She became the Squadron's Combat Survival and Rescue Officer, working closely with the US, instructing Squadron members on Escape and Evasion tactics.

Throughout her time, Mandy was the only female aircrew and later learned the lessons of juggling life as a working mother of two young children. Now a civilian, Mandy draws on her experiences to train and inspire others, covering the core areas of human factors; decision making, communication, [leadership](#), behaviour, workload, conflict, fatigue and stress management. She is also a highly sought-after keynote speaker in the business and education sectors.

Since leaving the RAF, she continues her support for the services in the Volunteer Reserve (VR), through flying on the Air Experience Flight, passing on her experience and enjoyment of flying to Air Cadets. She also supports her local community as Chairwoman of her local Tennis Club. A keen [sportswoman](#) in her spare time, Mandy enjoys playing tennis, spinning, cycling and hill walking. In the winter the slopes often are calling to her for some fast-paced skiing!

