

## Helicopter Pilot

**Tony Cooke** joined the infantry when he was 16 years old as he wanted to do an exciting job. He recommended that anyone who wanted to apply now to join the armed forces to get good GCSE results.



After 6 years he applied for and was accepted on a training course to fly. He had to work very hard and have good hand-eye coordination. Helicopter pilots need to be good at mathematics, science, geography and have good attitudes to learning. They need to listen and do exactly what they are told to do. Of every 100 who apply, only one actually gets a job.

There are as many women pilots as men. Tony trains them and thinks they are better than men!



Helicopters are used in battles, for surveillance, carrying troops and kit and evacuating casualties. Once you have a helicopter licence you could also fly for the police, coastguard, ambulance service or private clients. You can also change easily to flying aeroplanes.

He thinks that the best thing about flying a helicopter pilot is being on his own, up in the sky on a beautiful sunny day.

