

October 17, 2024

## Warren Aviation School to open October 19

Warren is set to launch its very own aviation school, Straight n Level, which will begin offering flying lessons from the newly upgraded Warren airport. This initiative is led by local resident and director of Bankstown Flying School, Nigel Clark, who aims to bring accessible aviation training back to the community he calls home.

Having lived in Warren for 25 years before moving to Sydney, Clark has over 15 years of experience in flight training and has operated his successful flying school since 2016.

"There's a significant opportunity to rejuvenate aviation in rural areas like Warren, where airports are often underutilised," said Mr Clark. "With the recent upgrades to the terminal, now is the perfect time to make this happen."

Straight n Level will offer a variety of training options, catering to different skill levels from beginners to advanced aviators. Courses will include recreational, private and commercial flight licenses, alongside specialised training for multi-engine aircrafts. "Our introductory flight course will allow newcomers to experience flying firsthand, making it accessible to everyone," Mr Clark added.

Initial interest in the school has been promising, with inquiries from aviation enthusiasts across the region, including Cobar, Walgett and Dubbo. Remarkably, about 80% of these inquiries have come from women, many of whom are farmers' wives eager to gain flying skills for greater independence. "Being able to fly can drastically reduce travel times and increase accessibility to services," Mr Clark explained.

In line with its growth plans, Straight n Level is also considering hiring a full-time instructor based in Warren, depending on demand. The school will officially open its doors on October 19, and is inviting interested individuals to come visit and learn more about the opportunities available.

For more information, potential students and community members can contact Nigel Clark at 0417 296 956 or via email at <a href="mailto:nige@bankstownflying.com.au">nige@bankstownflying.com.au</a>.



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