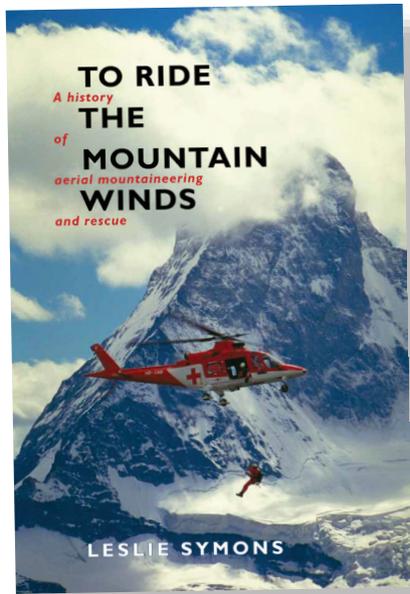




To Ride the Mountain Winds

A history of aerial mountaineering and rescue



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To Ride the Mountain Winds, possibly the first history of aerial mountaineering to span the whole period from the 18th century to the present day, is written for everyone interested in the history of mountaineering and also those interested in the history of aviation and the limits to which pilots have pushed their machines and their skills. This should include not only climbers and flyers but also those airline passengers who, while sipping a gin and tonic in the luxury of a modern airliner, far above the shining snows, have paused to wonder what might happen if their jet-propelled magic carpet were forced suddenly to descend among them. Few will have pondered the connections between the histories of mountaineers and aviators but their interaction is almost as old as either.

AUTHOR

Leslie Symons is an Emeritus Professor of Geography at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, who has been fascinated throughout his life by both mountains and aviation. His Ph.D, taken earlier at Queen's University, Belfast, is on mountain land use. His interest in mountain rescue has led him to travel widely and to discussions with the rescue services of a number of countries. He has written many books and articles based on his travels and researches.