

Jonathan Coles – Sir Sefton Brancker

In summary I had the time of my life learning to fly! It was hard but such great fun! This scholarship has given me the opportunity to fulfil the dream of becoming a pilot which otherwise I would never have been able to do/afford before! I am so grateful that at the age of 20 I am able to say that I have achieved my Private Pilots Licence.

At the start of the course the weather was very poor which meant that flying was restricted to just 1/2 days a week! This was frustrating however it did give me time to start studying for my exams! The reading for the exams was extensive, however because it was about something I am passionate I actually rather enjoyed it and found it very interesting.

My first solo was a day I will never forget, I knew the day was on the way but I dont think you can ever fully prepare for that time when your instructor gets out for the first time! It was both scary and exhilarating both once I got up in the air I was surprisingly relaxed and actually really enjoyed it! After this it wasnt long before I went on my Solo cross country which gave me a massive confidence boost and was a day that I really enjoyed.

Not long after my solo nav I was sitting my test, and I have to say that I have never felt so proud and so relieved when he told me that I had passed! It is my biggest achievement of my life so far and I am so pleased to have the first step completed on my journey towards becoming a commercial pilot.

Thank you so much to all of you at Air Pilots who have given me the opportunity of a lifetime! I am eternally grateful!