

LEO TANG – TAG FARNBOROUGH AIRPORT SCHOLARSHIP

Since I was young I have always been an ambitious person, continuously looking for challenge and striving to achieve the best of myself. Ever since I have had my first flight in the Grob Tutor with CCF when I was 15, my focus has been pinned to conquer the sky.

I have set out to pursue my dream, started by graduating with a Master degree in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Bristol. Shortly after university I had worked as an aircraft structure engineer specialising in wing design, which provided me the financial basis to start my flight training in gliders with Bristol and Gloucestershire Gliding Club based in Nympsfield. I have enjoyed every moment of my gliding career and have become a cross-country gliding pilot. Meanwhile I have started working at NATS, which has exposed me to the operational side of the aviation industry; my aspiration of getting more involved with aviation soared.



Having researched on the cost of a PPL course, I realised this next step up can only be a fantasy. Until one day I read the poster of the Honourable Company of Air Pilots' PPL scholarship at my gliding club, which encouraged me to submit my application. Through a competitive selection process and interview at Cobham House in London, I was very delighted to hear that I was awarded a place in the PPL Scholarship 2017.



I chose Phoenix Aviation based in Lee-on-Solent to complete my PPL training in Piper PA28. I have been spoiled by the specular view of the South Coast while receiving top quality training from my instructor, who has guided me carefully throughout the training to develop top notch airmanship, aviation knowledge and flying skills. Additionally, I have the pleasure to network with other experienced professional pilots as well as other aviation enthusiasts.

I was working with the PR team in TAG Farnborough Airport during my training, which provided me the unique opportunity to fly into Farnborough airport to meet their CEO and completed some filming. The video footages were later broadcasted in the local ITV News.



Words cannot express my gratitude to the Honourable Company of Air Pilots, TAG Farnborough Airport and those who supported me alongside my journey of flying achievements. Without their generosity, I would not have been able to come close to what I have achieved today. Having benefited from the astonishing scheme organised by the Honourable Company of Air Pilots, I am looking forward to the day when I can contribute in this great cause and assist future generations of talented and motivated young pilots.