

Owais Kiyani

The APT Scholarship



Recently I was accepted for a place on the Honourable Company of Air Pilots' Scholarships at Derbyshire and Lancashire gliding club. Having completed the course, it was absolutely amazing and I would recommend it to anyone at anytime of the day.

The course commenced on Sunday afternoon with arrival being at 4pm. Once settled into our accommodation and meeting our fellow attendees, we were given a briefing on pretty much everything we needed to know throughout the week from pre flight checks to knowing how to store away a glider. After this it was free time for the rest of the day so as a group we decided to go for a walk around the airfield and get to know each other a bit more.

Day 1, the official first day of the course. The day started with breakfast at 8am and with us needed to be at the hangar for 9am. We then got given a tractor induction and were pretty much taught how to drive one and how to safely tow a glider. The weather for the day was mediocre, nothing brilliant but nothing too bad either (typical England weather of course) so we managed to get a few flights in for the day.



Day 2 and 3 were pretty much the same and were quite decent days as we managed to get 6 flights in on both days.

Day 4 started badly unfortunately as it was a rainy morning so we had to wait quite a while until we could start gliding

Day 5, the last day of gliding. We were lucky enough to be offered the opportunity to fly in the T21, an old-style glider, on top of 5 flights in our normal glider. So as any reasonable adventurous teenager would do, we all decided to give it a shot. Since the T21 has no canopy when you are gliding you can actually feel the air hitting you, and whilst simultaneously trying to fly the glider it can prove to be quite a difference especially when your used to have a canopy.



As a whole, the course was absolutely remarkable, and everything was perfect so I would like to thank the Honourable Company of Air Pilots for granting me the once in a lifetime opportunity.

