Evan Hughes

Andrew Edie Scholarship 2025

My name is Evan and I am a 17 year old who has always had a huge interest in aviation. I have known for a long time that I would like a career in the industry. I have been a member of the Air Cadets for 4 years and enjoyed every part of it. This year, one of my friends at cadets introduced me to the Honourable Company Of Air Pilots and what they have to offer for young people with a passion for aviation. I was lucky enough to receive a scholarship with HCAP funded by the Andrew Eddie Scholarship.

My scholarship took place at Mynd Gliding Club along with 7 other participants. Before this week I had no previous gliding experience and by the end of the week I completed 2 shadowed solo flights with no prompts from my instructor. During the course of the week I completed 15 launches and gained a good understanding of how the aircraft behaves in the air. This has given me the perfect foundation to build my aviation career on and continue gliding as a hobby.



When I arrived at the gliding club I was greeted by many welcoming people and I have made lifelong friends on this course because we all had common interests and a strong passion for aviation. Everyone on the course built a really strong friendship and if one of us didn't quite understand something, the people that did understand it would gladly help and explain it to them.

Over the week there was also the opportunity from our instructors to go through lectures and briefings on the theory of flight and the physics behind the behaviour of a glider in the air. Knowing how it works really helped me to understand how my inputs on the controls affect the glider. I can now use this understanding to teach the Cadets on my squadron principles of flight.

Some of my favourite parts of the week included doing soaring flights where we used thermals to stay in the air and the views were amazing. Learning stall recoveries was an amazing experience because you get to put the knowledge that you have gained on why aircraft stall to practice.

I would strongly recommend that if you are considering starting gliding or have a keen interest in aviation to apply for a scholarship with HCAP. My advice for the course would be to put yourself out there and talk to everyone. You can make some amazing friends if you spend time with the people on your course. Also, the more effort you put into learning, the more you will get out of it. Thank you HCAP for this amazing opportunity.



