

Aliza Mckee

The AST Gliding Scholarship

I am honoured that The Honourable Company of Air Pilots gave me the opportunity to go on a 5 day gliding scholarship. It was a long journey to the Peak District as I traveled all the way from Northern Ireland but the journey was well worth it as I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Derby & Lancs Gliding Club.



The day we arrived at D&L gliding club we settling into our rooms, enjoyed a delicious dinner and got ready for the day ahead. The first task of the gliding scholarship was learning to drive tractors so we could retrieve the gliders after a landing. It was hilarious watching the boys learn as it was their first time driving tractors but by the end of the week they were pros.



The best part of the scholarship was learning to fly the Puchacz. My favourite part is taking off.

When you get launched up into the air gaining 1000ft in a matter of seconds. During my scholarship I was lucky enough to get 25 launches in a Puchacz and over three hours of flying time in just 5 days!

By day three I was taking off, doing a circuit and landing all by myself! With very little Instructions from my instructor Alan. I was also lucky enough to get a flight in an old Air Cadet glider which was an amazing experience!



I will forever be grateful for this experience that wouldn't have been possible without The Honourable Company of Air Pilots and I couldn't recommend the scholarship enough to anyone wanting to apply. Just do it!

You'll love it!

