

Chris Barrott – Grayburn Scholarship

Thank you to everyone who made it possible for me to spend my summer in the sky. It's been an absolute privilege to receive the Grayburn scholarship and I am incredibly appreciative of everybody at HCOAP for their help.

I have been flying gliders since I was 14, racking up nearly 200 hours, but I've always wanted to start powered flying with the aim of turning it into a career.



I completed my training with Flight Training London, based at Elstree; a busy airfield with a narrow and sloping runway. My first solo flight was at the start of July and I rapidly moved onto the navigation. It all happened in a bit of a blur – my first solo navigation and QXC all happened within a few days. A particular highlight was setting off on the last leg of my QXC from Duxford and enjoying a smooth flight back down to Elstree in the evening sun - simply fantastic.

I'm looking forward to getting some hours under my belt and starting a night rating this winter before converting to the tug at my gliding club for next summer. All I know is: I want to fly, and I'm immensely grateful for how this scholarship has helped me.

