

Joy Lim - Royal Air Force Charitable Trust Gliding Scholarship

If you are interested in aviation of any kind I would highly recommend the Honourable Company of Air Pilots Gliding Scholarship. We started our course in August at the Scottish Gliding Club with a briefing at 9am on Monday morning. I met my instructor David and the other scholarship winner Matylda and we soon became friends.

On our first day I managed to get in three aerotow launches which took us up to over three thousand feet. During the flights which lasted around 25 minutes we did a bit of ridge soaring as well as practising coordination. While I was waiting for flights I had the opportunity to practise some ground handling like aerotow and winch launching as well as helping collect gliders.

The following day we practised some of the same things as well as trimming, stalling and air brakes. I also had my first winch launch which was exhilarating. I furthered my ground handling by driving a mule for the first time. On day three the weather only allowed one flight where we practised straight glides. After this we had the opportunity to go on the flight sim and practise in less bumpy conditions.



Day four had much better weather and a strong westerly enabled me to have my longest flight of the week as we ridge soared for over 70 minutes! The following day I had my first flight in the Perkoz and practised circuits and approach as well as the top half of the winch launch. Day five and day six continued with two flights each day and I practised and expanded on the skills I had learnt until I was flying almost the whole time except the last 50 feet of landing.



Over the week I had an amazing time and am very grateful to the Honourable Company of Air Pilots for organising it and to the Royal Air Force Charitable Trust for sponsoring me. I also want to thank the Scottish Gliding Club and especially my instructor, David who helped give me more experience of

aviation and how to fly. This week has confirmed my desire to study aero-mechanical engineering at university, do powered flying and get my PPL before going on to a career in aviation as a commercial pilot.