

## Dunmore Scholarship – Tom Weekes

I really enjoyed the gliding scholarship offered by the Honourable Company of Air Pilots in the magnificent landscape of the Peak District during the summer holidays.

It was a great experience which I found out about through my CCF section at school.

The week was very action packed but educational too; learning about thermals, waves and ridges. The terrain of the Peak District was perfect, with a ridge right next to the gliding club. Despite the poor weather I was able to fly 4 out of the 5 days on the course gaining a total of 2 hours 45 minutes of flight time during which I reached 3,200 feet above the ground!



Three students shared a two-seater Puchacz glider and an excellent instructor who taught me how to stall safely and took me up to a thrilling 80 knots.

Even though I missed out on a day in the air it was not wasted as we learned almost as much on the excellent flight simulator the club had to offer.

Unfortunately, due to weather restrictions I was unable to go solo this time but I was very happy to take off and land without assistance from the instructor, so I look forward to an opportunity to fly solo very soon. I would thoroughly recommend to anyone who has an interest in flight to apply for wonderful opportunity that you will always remember.

