

622 Volunteer Gliding Squadron  
Trenchard Lines  
Upavon Wilts SN9 6BE



Date: 18 Nov 09

Dear Cadet

**JOINING INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRAINEES ATTENDING A GLIDING SCHOLARSHIP COURSE AT 622 VOLUNTEER GLIDING SQUADRON**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. You have been allocated a place on a Gliding Scholarship course at 622 Volunteer Gliding Squadron (VGS) from **[start date]** to **[end date]**.
2. Aim. The aim of the Gliding Scholarship (GS) course is to train cadets in all elements of the Gliding Scholarship syllabus. The Air Cadet Organisation (ACO) invests a lot of money in the provision of this fantastic opportunity and it is estimated that each place on a course costs £1,500. The course will include:
  - a. Classroom lectures
  - b. Flying training in the Viking glider
  - c. GS essential knowledge quiz (multiple choice test)
3. Those trainees who achieve the required standard will be awarded GS Blue Wings and a certificate to show they have successfully completed the course. Cadets showing the correct aptitude may be invited to continue to solo level. Cadets who go solo will be awarded GS Silver Wings and a certificate.

**LOCATION**

4. 622 VGS operate from Upavon airfield, Trenchard Lines, located 2 miles east of Upavon village.
5. Travel by Rail. Swindon (Wilts) is the nearest railway station. If you require a travel warrant you should ask your Officer Commanding to apply to your Wing HQ (ATC) or



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DFTS: 94344 ext 5286



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school (CCF). Service transport will depart Swindon railway station at **1500hrs** on 21 May 09 to transport you to 622 VGS.

6. Travel by Road. If you wish to travel by car, Trenchard Lines is located on the A342 (postcode SN9 6BE). If you bring your own vehicle you will need to obtain a temporary pass from the guardroom on arrival.

**You must contact the Adjutant two weeks before the start of your course to confirm your travel arrangements.**

7. Departure. We aim to finish by 1700hrs on [end date] and you must attend for the entire course. You must confirm your homeward travel arrangements to the Course Admin Officer before Monday 25 May 09 so he can arrange service transport to Swindon railway station. You may use our telephone to contact your parents to arrange collection.

## **ARRIVAL**

8. The course commences at **1800hrs** on [start date]. If you require an evening meal, you should arrive at Trenchard Lines before **1600hrs**.

**Should there be a problem while you are travelling to 622 VGS, telephone the Course Commander on 01980 615286.**

9. On arrival, report to the Guardroom where you will be directed to 622 VGS headquarters. At the VGS HQ you will need to produce:

- a. F3822 or Record of Service (RoS) book with Parent's / Guardian's Consent to Fly Certificate signed
- b. F6424 Air Cadet Medical Certificate of Fitness for Glider Pilot Training

## **ACCOMODATION AND MESSING**

10. Accommodation will be booked for you in the Junior Ranks Mess at Trenchard Lines from the Thursday night onwards. Keys and building security codes will be provided by the Course Commander.

11. You are required to contribute to the cost of your messing, payable to the Adjutant, 622 VGS at the beginning of your course. The current rate is £1.63 per day, [£##,##] for the course. Please bring exact change.



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## PROGRAMME

12. Draft course programme. Annex A

## DRESS

13. Normal working dress will be coveralls / flying suit with smooth soled boots or trainers. Berets must be worn with flying clothing when not on the airfield. Coveralls or flying suit must be issued by your unit as 622 VGS do not have surplus flying clothing.

14. Kit list. Annex B.

## MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL FITNESS STANDARDS

15. To attend a GS course you must:

- a. Be a minimum of 16 years old at the start of the course.
- b. Hold a current F6424 Air Cadet Medical Certificate of Fitness for Glider Pilot Training. If there are comments on the F6424 your OC must forward it through appropriate channels to the CFMO who will make a decision regarding your fitness to fly prior to the course start date.
- c. Comply with the weight limits: **Max: 102kg, Min: 49kg** (dressed in normal flying kit).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

16. Health and safety. All trainees will receive a Health and Safety brief on arrival. Trainees are also advised to read the 622 VGS Health and Safety Policy Statement.

17. Inclement weather. Should you not be able to fly due to bad weather, 622 VGS often arranges a number of alternative activities, including ground briefings, sports and local visits. Alternatively you may wish to bring homework to carry out in case flying is suspended for a period.

18. Course withdrawal. If you find that you are unable to attend your course, you are to notify your unit OC immediately. They will notify AO Flying at HQAC on your behalf. There are always far more applicants for GS courses than there are vacancies so the more notice of non-attendance we receive the greater the chance of the place not being wasted.



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## **CONCLUSION**

19. The Gliding Scholarship course is a unique learning experience that few get the opportunity to experience. You will find that it is hard but enjoyable work so you should make every effort to gain the most from your course. The Officer Commanding and staff of 622 VGS hope you enjoy the course and hope that you find your experience and achievement at 622 VGS memorable and relevant in future life.

**R Walker  
Fg Off  
Adjutant  
622 VGS**

Annexes:

- A. Course programme.
- B. Kit List
- C. Gliding Scholarship Letter to Parent / Guardian



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**COURSE PROGRAMME**

**ANNEX A**

Time	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
0800-0900					Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast			
0900-1000		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Lecture 10	Lecture 11&12	Lecture 13	Exam	Breakfast	Breakfast	
		Lecture 4&5	Lecture 6&7	Lecture 8&9	Ops brief	Ops brief	Ops brief	Ops brief	Exam re-sits	Admin	
1000-1100		Ops brief	Ops brief	Ops brief	Cse Photo				Ops brief	Ops brief	
1100-1200		Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	
1200-1300		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1300-1400		Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying
1400-1500											Shutdown
1500-1600											Presenta-tion
1600-1700											Travel
1700-1800	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Travel		
1800-1900	Admin	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying	Flying			
1900-2000	Lecture 1-3	Shutdown	Shutdown	Shutdown	Shutdown	Shutdown	Shutdown	Shutdown	Shutdown		
2000-2100	Initiative exercises	Film night*	School study period	Quiz*	School study period	Sport*	Revision Q&A	School study period	Squadron barbeque		
2100-2200											

This programme is subject to alteration in response to weather and other external factors

\* Individual trainees may choose to do private study for school exams during these periods in addition to the programmed school study periods

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**KIT LIST**

**ANNEX B**

- F3822 / RoS book with "Parent's / Guardian's Consent to Fly Certificate" signed
- F6424 Air Cadet Medical Certificate of Fitness for Glider Pilot Training
- Olive drab coveralls or a flying suit
- Green or white t-shirts to wear under coveralls
- Smooth soled boots or trainers
- Beret
- Corrective spectacles if worn for distance reading or driving (plus a spare pair)
- Sunglasses
- Cadet working blue uniform (dark blue shirt)
- Winter: Warm clothes, hat, scarf, gloves
- Summer: Cool clothes, sun screen, hat
- Wash kit and towel
- Casual clothes
- Sports kit and training shoes
- Cadet contribution to messing £1.63 per day
- Spending money



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Date: 18 Nov 09

Dear Parent / Guardian,

### **GLIDING SCHOLARSHIP LETTER TO PARENT / GUARDIAN**

I am pleased to inform you that your child has been nominated to attend a Gliding Scholarship course at 622 Volunteer Gliding Squadron (VGS) from **[start date]** to **[end date]**. This letter is intended to give you all the information you need to understand the course requirements, the commitment required from your child and to help you understand what support you will need to offer them.

The Gliding Scholarship course consists of up to 40 launches covering all elements of the Gliding Scholarship syllabus. This includes classroom lectures, flying training in the Viking glider and a multiple choice exam. Those trainees who achieve the required standard will be awarded GS Blue Wings and a certificate to show they have successfully completed the course. Cadets showing the correct aptitude may be invited to continue to solo level. Cadets who go solo will be awarded GS Silver Wings and a certificate. The Air Cadet Organisation (ACO) invests a lot of money in the provision of this fantastic opportunity and it is estimated that each place on a course costs about £1,500.

During the application process you will have been made aware of a number of pre-requisites for the Gliding Scholarship course. Your child must:

- a. Have your signature in the "Parent's / Guardian's Consent to Fly Certificate" in their F3822 / RoS book
- b. Be a minimum of 16 years old at the start of the course
- c. Hold a current F6424 Air Cadet Medical Certificate of Fitness for Glider Pilot Training
- d. Comply with the weight limits: **Max: 102kg, Min: 49kg** (dressed in normal flying kit)

They will need to arrive at 622 VGS before **1800hrs** on **[start date]**. If they require dinner then they will need to arrive before **1600hrs**. If they are travelling by train then they should travel to Swindon railway station from which service transport will depart at **1500hrs** for Upavon.

**Please ensure they contact the Adjutant two weeks before the start of the course to confirm their travel arrangements.**



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Your child will be accommodated and fed at Trenchard Lines for which 622 VGS will need to collect a cadet contribution to messing of £1.63 per day.

There is no reason why attendance at a gliding scholarship should have a negative effect on the exam studies of cadets. If some particularly important assignment has to be completed, the cadet should inform the Course Commander who will take this into account and organise each days programme to suit. Evenings and bad weather days will include ground lectures for cadets and can also provide quiet study period for cadets to work on assignments or revise for exams.

The course will last for 10 days and will typically end at **1700hrs** on **[end date]**. Cadets must attend the entire course. 622 VGS will arrange service transport to take cadets to Swindon railway station on the Sunday afternoon. Cadets can use the VGS telephone to contact you to confirm their travel arrangements home. If you would like to attend the presentation ceremony at the end of the course, you are advised to arrive at **1600hrs**. These times may be adjusted dependant on weather conditions on the day.

For those cadets travelling an extraordinary distance home, the Adjutant can arrange an additional night's accommodation to allow your child the full day on Monday to travel home.

An Air Cadet Gliding Scholarship will be an exciting and immensely satisfying experience which will build self confidence and may be the first rung on the ladder of a flying career. It requires effort and commitment from the cadet and from those who have to get the cadet to and from the VGS. However, successful completion of the course will form a very useful addition to any job application or CV and will therefore be of value in whichever career path your child chooses to follow. There are not many young people who can fly an aircraft before they can legally drive a car and this sets them apart from their peers.

If you have any questions, please contact the VGS on 01980 615286 and ask for the Adjutant (weekends only).

**R Walker**  
**Fg Off**  
**Adjutant**  
**622 VGS**



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