

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) starting [**start date**] and typically taking 4 to 8 weekends to complete.
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.



Tel: (01980) 615286
Fax: (01980) 615284
DFTS: 94344 ext 5286



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5. Travel by Road. 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.
6. Arrival. Weekend operations commence at **0900hrs** each morning.
7. 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
8. Departure. Weekend operations typically finish on Sunday at **1900hrs** in summer or shortly after sunset in winter. You may use our telephone to contact your parents to arrange collection.

ACCOMODATION AND MESSING

9. Accommodation will be booked for you in the Junior Ranks Mess at Trenchard Lines each Saturday night for the duration of your course. Keys and building security codes will be provided by the Duty Instructor.
10. You are required to contribute to the cost of your messing, payable to the Adjutant, 622 VGS at the beginning of each weekend. The current rate is **£1.63** per day. Please bring exact change.

PROGRAMME

11. Draft course programme. Annex A

DRESS

12. 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.

13. Kit list. Annex B.

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL FITNESS STANDARDS

14. 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



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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

15. 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.

16. 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.

17. Absence from the course. Flying takes priority over every other cadet activity in accordance with ACP20A ACTI No 32, para 10. Should you be unable to attend then you must inform the OC or Adjutant in writing. If you are ill on the morning you should contact the Duty Instructor on the VGS phone or mobile. Any unauthorised absences will be notified to your Wing HQ and the OC of your squadron.

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 your WiGLO and the Adjutant, 622 VGS 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.

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



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Annexes:

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



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TYPICAL WEEKEND COURSE PROGRAMME

ANNEX A

Time	Saturday	Sunday
0800-0900		Breakfast
0900-1000	Start up and Lectures	Start up and Lectures
1000-1100	Ops brief	Ops brief
1100-1200	Flying	Flying
1200-1300	Lunch	Lunch
1300-1400	Flying	Flying
1400-1500		
1500-1600		
1600-1700		
1600-1700	Dinner	
1700-1800	Flying	Shutdown
1800-1900		
1900-2000	Shutdown	

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



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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
- 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) starting **[start date]** and **typically taking 4 to 8 weekends to complete**. 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)

Your child will need to arrive at 622 VGS before **0900hrs** each Saturday morning. Weekend operations typically finish on Sunday at **1900hrs** in summer or shortly after sunset in winter. Cadets can use the VGS telephone to contact you to confirm their travel arrangements home.

During the weekend they will be fed at Trenchard Lines for which 622 VGS will need to collect a cadet contribution to messing of £1.63 per day. 622 VGS will arrange for them to



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be accommodated at Trenchard Lines every Saturday night for the duration of the course and they will not be allowed off the camp during the weekend.

It is vital that candidates attend regularly so that aircraft and crews are fully utilised and money is not wasted. Please ensure that you have reliable transport arrangements to and from 622 VGS for the duration of the course. The duration of a weekend course can vary depending on the weather and student ability. Cadets are expected to attend regardless of weather as important ground training can be carried out on non-flying days and in many cases the local weather at the VGS can be different from that at home or as predicted in the general weather forecast.

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 Duty Instructor 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.

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
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Adjutant
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