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PRESS RELEASE

Flying High

On Saturday the 18th of October, Cadet Sergeant Lauren Dougherty, 16, completed her gliding scholarship at 616 Volunteer Gliding Squadron, at RAF Henlow. The scholarship is a prestigious training course, which in civilian schools would cost over £3000 to achieve the same results. The course consists of 13 exercises which cadets have to complete before obtaining the right to wear the blue winged badge; these include taking off, stalling and landing the aircraft as well as emergency drills and flight planning.

Every cadet who attends the gliding scholarship also takes part in the engineering side, learning the maintenance of the aircraft, ensuring they are safe to fly as well as the correct refuelling procedures, after flight checks and cleaning.

Cadet Sergeant Dougherty successfully completed her course over a period of four weekends and said, 'It was amazing to be given such a unique opportunity to test myself and my skills. I enjoyed every moment of it from the early morning flights in clear blue skies to the cleaning of the aircraft at the end of the day, and I have not only gained a lot of confidence from it but new skills that tested my ability to the limit.'

207 Squadron are now recruiting new cadets from the age of 13 to 18. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the Squadron on 01234 752030 or call in at their Headquarters off Merchants Lane, Cranfield between the times of 7:30pm and 9:30pm on a Monday or Thursday evening.

By Cadet Sergeant Lauren Dougherty
207 (Cranfield) Sqn

Notes to Editor

- Attached photo: 'vigilant.bmp'
- 'The Grob 109b Vigilant powered glider used for Cadet training and ,inset, the 'Blue Wings' awarded for completion of the course'



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