

1220 (March) Squadron
Air Training Corps
Gas Road, March, Cambs.
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PRESS RELEASE

PUTTING THE “FLIGHT” INTO FLIGHT SERGEANT!

1220 (MARCH) Squadron know the true meaning of the word “flight” with both of Flight Sergeants gaining wings in their respective aircraft and on the same day!

Instructor Cadet Flight Sergeant Toni Arnold competed her final solo flights to be awarded her Advanced Glider Training wings whilst Instructor Cadet Flight Sergeant Alexa Ferguson flew solo in a powered aircraft to gain her Air Cadet Pilot wings. Neither was aware what the other had done until later that day.

Alexa was one of the first cadets from 1220 (March) Squadron to be awarded a place on the Air Cadet Pilot Scheme for some 20 years. She spent two weeks at Tayside Aviation based at Dundee Airport learning to fly the Grob Heron light aircraft. The first week of the course was severely disrupted by bad weather but things picked up in week two and Alexa was able to complete the course and on the final day took off to achieve her solo flight and be awarded the Air Cadet Pilot wings.

Alexa said “It was a fantastic experience. The course has encouraged me to take my aviation interest to another level and I’m looking forward to hopefully funding my private pilot’s licence in the future.”

Meanwhile some 400 miles south Toni was completing her final three required solo flights to pass the Advanced Glider Training and was awarded her Gold glider pilot wings. Toni is the first cadet on the squadron to be awarded the gold wings.

Weather conditions at the Volunteer Gliding Squadron, Watton had not been great with cross winds and rain preventing some flying but by chance on the Saturday conditions improved and all three flights were completed.

Toni, who is also a volunteer staff cadet at VGS Watton, said “It is absolutely fantastic to be soaring with the birds. I really enjoy gliding and completion of my gold wings has been a long held ambition. I look forward to continuing my training as well as putting something back into the ATC by helping others achieve their wings.”

For further information on 1220 log onto the website at www.1220atc.org.uk .

Colin Arnold
FG Off RAFVR(T)
For OC 1220 Sqn

Attachments: 20100802-pilot1.jpg - Alexa seated in the Grob Heron
Attachments: 20100802-pilot2.jpg - Toni with the Grob Viking.



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