

624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron

Royal Marines Barracks Chivenor, Barnstaple, Devon. EX31 4AZ.
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Flying Officer Paul Shanes BA(Hons) RAF VR(T)
Adjutant, 624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron



GLIDING SCHOLARSHIP TRAINEE JOINING INSTRUCTIONS (WEEKEND COURSES)

CONTACT DETAILS:

The Squadron can be contacted using the details above in writing, by telephone or via our website. The Commanding Officer is Sqn Ldr G W North RAF VR(T) and the Adjutant is Fg Off P S Shanes RAF VR(T).

LOCATION & ROUTING:

624 Volunteer Gliding Squadron is located at Royal Marines Barracks Chivenor, three miles west of Barnstaple, North Devon. Cadets can route by rail to Barnstaple Railway Station. Bus services operate from the station to RMB Chivenor.

REPORTING:

Cadets are to report to the Main Guardroom at RMB Chivenor by 0845hrs on their first day of attendance. Once at the Guardroom they should request that the security staff contact the Squadron to arrange transportation. Trainees will be given further instructions regarding their accommodation upon arrival at the Squadron.

SECURITY AND DOCUMENTATION:

All MOD establishments operate a high level of security. Cadets must arrive carrying their RAF F3822 Record of Service Book or CCF Record of Service Book and these joining instructions to confirm identity. The Cadet's RAF F3822 or CCF ROS Book must be completed and signed in all sections relevant to flying. In particular there must be Parent's/Guardian's consent to Gliding Training. Failure to present a correctly completed Record of Service will prevent the cadet from starting the course.

Trainees should travel in smart civilian clothes. Sportswear or items with logos are not permitted. Uniform is not required for the course. It is strongly recommended that trainees bring sunglasses even during winter months. The trainee's luggage should be clearly labelled or marked externally with name, rank, Squadron number and VGS number. Visitor's vehicles will require temporary passes obtainable from the Guardroom. All vehicles and baggage are liable to search at any time by security forces and all drivers should ensure they are aware of the base driving regulations both on and off the airfield, which can be explained at the Guard Room.

MESSING:

Cadets will be charged £1.50 per day for messing payable in full on arrival to the Messing Officer. Trainees take breakfast in the Main Galley at 0800 hours, lunch at 1230 hours and dinner at 1700 hours (times are subject to change during winter periods). Transport from the accommodation to the Main Galley and return, is provided. Coveralls and sports clothing are not to be worn in the mess under any circumstances.

ACCOMMODATION:

Accommodation, with bed and mattress, is provided in a dedicated dormitory at the Squadron. CADETS MUST BRING A SLEEPING BAG AND PILLOW. There are study facilities available for each trainee in the accommodation blocks.



Study time during the day and evenings will be arranged on request with the Duty Instructor. Desks, chairs, reading lamps and power points are provided at every study location; however the Squadron can not be responsible for the safekeeping of laptops or other expensive personal equipment.

MEDICAL:

A medical examination must be completed well in advance of the course start date to allow consultation with the RAF Chief Medical Officer regarding "waivers" for acceptable disability, where appropriate. The completed medical certificate RAF F6424 is to be submitted to Flying Admin at HQ AC. If necessary Flying Admin will obtain the RAF CFMO's decision. The RAF F6424 and CFMO's decision will be sent to the VGS to await the Cadet's arrival. **Failure to present a completed medical form will prevent the cadet starting the course.** It is highly recommended that the cadet retains a photocopy of the medical form and brings this with them on the first day of the course. Alternatively cadets may wish to fax a copy to the Squadron in advance.

COURSE NOTES:

Course notes will be issued to each trainee at the start of the course. This will include a Gliding Scholarship Study Guide and Course Record Card. The Study Guide **MUST** be returned to the Squadron before departure.

FOOTWEAR:

Cadets must bring smooth, soft-soled footwear (trainers) for use during flying training. Boots or deep tread shoes are not permitted in the aircraft.

VALUABLES:

Under no circumstances are recordable imagery devices to be taken onboard air cadet aircraft without the prior consent of the Officer Commanding 624 VG Sqn. This includes but is not limited to digital cameras and mobile phones with inbuilt cameras. Cameras, cash and valuables may be handed to an Executive Officer for safekeeping. Lockers are also available issued to each cadet for increased security; loss of the locker key will result in a fine.

SAFETY:

There are many potential dangers associated with aircraft operations and trainees are especially to remain well clear of propellers at all times. Only exemplary behaviour is accepted during the course. Regardless of a Cadet's age, smoking and consumption of alcohol are both prohibited. No cadet is permitted to leave RMB Chivenor at any time during the course unless escorted by a member of the Gliding Squadron Staff.

AWARD OF BREVETS AND CERTIFICATES:

Brevets will be awarded by the Gliding Squadron following completion of the course. Certificates will be awarded later by HQ AC via the cadets Squadron, Detached Flight or CCF Contingent

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

If further information is required, regarding the course, this should be obtained from the cadet's Squadron, HQ AC or the Squadron Adjutant.