

Dear newly qualified Club member....

Now you have left the close control of the school and joined the Derbyshire Soaring Club, your future development as a pilot is in your own hands.

This may seem a rather daunting prospect, but help is at hand in the form of our Club Coaches.

They are Pilots just like you, but with a bit more experience and a desire to see others progress; they have also been on a short BHPA training course to guide them in this task and are recognised by the BHPA and the club.

First, a clarification of a couple of important roles...

Coach = Jiminy Cricket (the little voice of reason on your shoulder)

Not an instructor, Not a teacher,
Just a source of friendly advice
(which it is up to you to gauge and then take, or ignore)



Pilot = the person in sole command of the vessel (glider), the person who makes the decisions, the person responsible, **YOU!**

It's up to you to make contact with coaches (it's a really good idea to try and build yourself a bit of a network rather than just stick with one person, that way you will probably get a more complete and balanced view).

So how can you locate and contact them?

- You can use their phone numbers or other preferred contact method as shown in the sites guide, or on the club website.
- You may want to look for the ones near where you live? (They sometimes have regular social gatherings apart from the main club events, and you would be most welcome to join them!).
- You can turn up on the hill and ask other pilots to point out coaches to you.
- You can attend club events and lectures and ask to be introduced.
- You can ask your instructor to introduce you.
- Look out for the "breakfast briefings", these are advertised on the website, run by coaches and available to all.

The BHPA pilot development system gives everyone the opportunity to improve themselves by providing a framework of tasks and study topics to tackle.

This series of tasks can be regarded as stepping stones which can be used as a focus for you to work on with the coaches to develop your skills.

So speak to a coach about the Pilot development system and take a look at....

http://www.bhpa.co.uk/pdf/PDS_foundation_layer_phases.pdf

We would love to hear from you, but please bear in mind that coaches sometimes like to just go flying the same as you.
So please don't feel rejected if you find we aren't always there every time you feel you need us.
Just be patient, maybe try a different coach, wait for advice if you need it, and always keep safe.

Happy landings!