

# LASHAM YOUTH

## Introduction

Lasham Youth has been set up to increase the junior presence and participation at Lasham. We aim to do this by making gliding more accessible to young people and continue to provide support for members under 26 years old.

## The schemes

There are two schemes Junior Flying and the Cadet Scheme. The junior scheme was tested in 2006 and it is hoped it will continue. This is aimed at pilots between 11 and 14 years old. Even though some reach solo standard quickly, the law prevents them flying solo before the age of 16. There is a risk that a long delay until the age of 16 will be frustrating, but apparently the pilots have been delighted just to be able to fly.

Under the Cadet Scheme we offer a reduction in cost to members between the age of 15 and 26. The upper age limit is the age that the BGA considers that "youth" is over. All dates are related to the age of the person on January 1st of the year in question.

The Youth Committee looks after the interests of young members. They actively seek sponsorship to fund glider rental and course and competition fees.

## The first flight

You will fly in a dual control two-seat training glider with a qualified instructor. Before the lesson you will be given a full briefing of what will happen during the lesson. The lesson's objective is for you to experience gliding and to understand the effects of the controls. The launch will be flown by the instructor and will be done by towing the glider behind a light aircraft to 2,500 feet above the ground. The instructor will then demonstrate the effects of the controls and you will be able to take control if you wish, under careful supervision! The instructor will then land the glider.

Booking is straightforward: contact the Lasham office (01256 384900) to reserve a date. With luck it will be a calm and sunny. However gliding can occur in a range of weather, but low cloud, continuous rain and/or high winds will cause flying to be postponed until a more suitable day. You may wish to check with the Office on the day if there is any doubt about the weather.

Those under 18 years old must request a temporary membership application form for a parent/guardian to sign. You will be unable to fly without this. On the evening bring the payment of £40.00 per person (cash/cheque with guarantee card) and, if you are under 18, your completed temporary membership application form.

After your trial lesson, cadets are still a temporary member of the club and can enjoy its facilities including flying at club rates for a month. You are also exempted the £20 joining fee if you take up full membership.

## Age ranges & restrictions

Weight ranges need to be between 45kg (7 stone or 98 pounds) to 103 kg (16.4 stone or 228 pounds). The maximum and minimum heights for pupils is approximately 6' 4" (1.93 metres) and five feet tall (1.5 metres). Children under eleven years old are unlikely to be within the height and weight limits and will usually not be mature enough to benefit from the trial lesson.

Do not drink alcohol before your flight. If you do, the instructor will refuse to fly with you.

### **The Saturday evening group**

During the summer, Saturday evening is "Yoof" evening. An evening group is run by a combination of senior members and the youth members themselves. This group supplies their own winch drivers, tug pilots and instructors. However young pilots can fly with other weekday groups and evening groups.

The Saturday evening group usually just after Easter. Everyone meets at 17.30hr in the briefing room. (This is in a building known as the "Brown Elephant".) There is a short briefing and then during the evening everyone has the opportunity to fly with an instructor in one of our two-seater gliders. There is an enthusiastic social scene afterwards.

### **Junior Flying**

To qualify for Junior Flying, the pilot must be:

- Between 11 and 14 years old
- Have a parent, grandparent or guardian who is a full flying member of Lasham and they remain at the launch point when the junior is flying
- Be accepted by a weekday group leader (preferably Winter Wednesdays where the group is geared up to accept juniors) or one of the summer evening groups (Daytime flying at weekends is excluded from this scheme.)
- Inform the CFI or the office who will allocate the junior to an appropriate course
- Complete membership form to cover insurance

An account number will be assigned which will be needed before flying. The costs of flying will be charged to this account and settled by the full flying member in the usual way.

The log sheet should show the pilot's first initial to distinguish them from the parent. The log sheet should also be marked with a 'J' for junior.

The fees are:

- Membership and admin fee - £10 annually from 1 January each year
- Winch fees - £3.50 per launch
- Soaring charges – none
- Aerotows and motor glider: Charged at full rate to full flying members account

### **Cadet Scheme**

Unlike Junior Flying the Cadet Scheme the parent or guardian need not be a full flying member. The Cadet must be 15 or over. Lasham provides three graduated schemes, which will take the young person through to full membership at age 26. However, we can also accommodate new members with some existing knowledge joining at intermediate stages.

1. The Cadet Scheme offers free membership to LGS, free soaring in LGS gliders and half price winch and aerotow launches.
2. The next step is the Under-21 Membership. Lasham offers the under-21s an annual membership fee of £50, half price soaring on LGS gliders and half price winch launches.

This step acknowledges the greater earning power of 18-year-olds and reflects the greater availability of club resources. This is roughly in line with the cost of belonging to one of the university clubs at Lasham.

3. For members from the age of 21, to under the age of 26 on 1st January, the Youth committee have negotiated £100 U26 membership to Lasham Gliding Society but launch costs and soaring fees are the same as for older members. There is also a £20 joining fee if the member has not had an air experience flight or attended a course at Lasham.

Cadets change from one scheme to another depending on their age on 1 January of that year. If someone over 18 wishes to join then they can do at the point indicated by their age. There are no restrictions on the times of day when cadets can fly under this scheme.

After a few solo flights in Lasham's two-seaters, the Surrey and Hampshire Gliding Club also offers special rates for all youth members so that they can fly one of the club's single-seaters.

### **Child protection**

A separate document sets out Lasham's policy on child protection. The form at the end should be signed and returned to the Lasham Office to acknowledge acceptance of the arrangements. Juniors are the responsibility of the full flying member at all times. The launch point is hazardous and is not a crèche!

### **Accommodation**

Over 18's may use the accommodation. Book and pay through the office.

### **Sponsorship**

Lasham Youth receives money from corporate sponsors and from many Lasham members. To show our appreciation we have incorporated their names on our letterheads, which will be used for internal Lasham correspondences and letters to potential sponsors.

Depending on the generosity of these donations the Youth committee will offer discounts on launches per year for each youth member. If finances improve we can increase the subsidy offered and/or use the money for expeditions.

Financial support in the form of Lasham U26 membership and launch subsidy though the youth scheme will not be available to people who own their own gliders but they are welcome to take advantage of social benefits that the scheme offers.

### **Achievements**

Since the creation of Lasham Youth in November 2003, cadets, university and other under 26 members have benefited from the network that the scheme offers and have increased the social interaction.

Recently Christmas and Easter expeditions to the Long Mynd both had over 10 people from the Youth Scheme and Imperial College gliding club attending. In the summer Lasham Youth has held a barbeque and we have also enjoyed many other meals together after flying.

## How to get there



See also attached map

### A31 near Alton

Follow signs A339 Basingstoke. Do not follow signs to Lasham village. After about six miles turn right into Avenue Road, Lasham Gliding is sign-posted by a brown sign. The airfield's main entrance is on the right after about half a mile.

### M3 Junction 6 (Basingstoke)

Follow signs Alton A339. Lasham is on the left about six miles down this road just after the village of Herriard. You can usually see large jet aircraft at ATC Aviation as you come over the brow of a small hill. Turn left into Avenue Road, Lasham Gliding is sign-posted by a brown sign. The airfield's main entrance is on the right after about half a mile.

### M3 Junction 5

Initially follow signs to Farnham A287. At the next three roundabouts after the motorway junction, follow signs Alton B3349. After six miles, turn right at Golden Pot crossroads. Do not follow signs to Lasham village. The airfield's main entrance is on the left after about 1.5 miles from the Golden Pot. (Ignore rusting aircraft museum.)

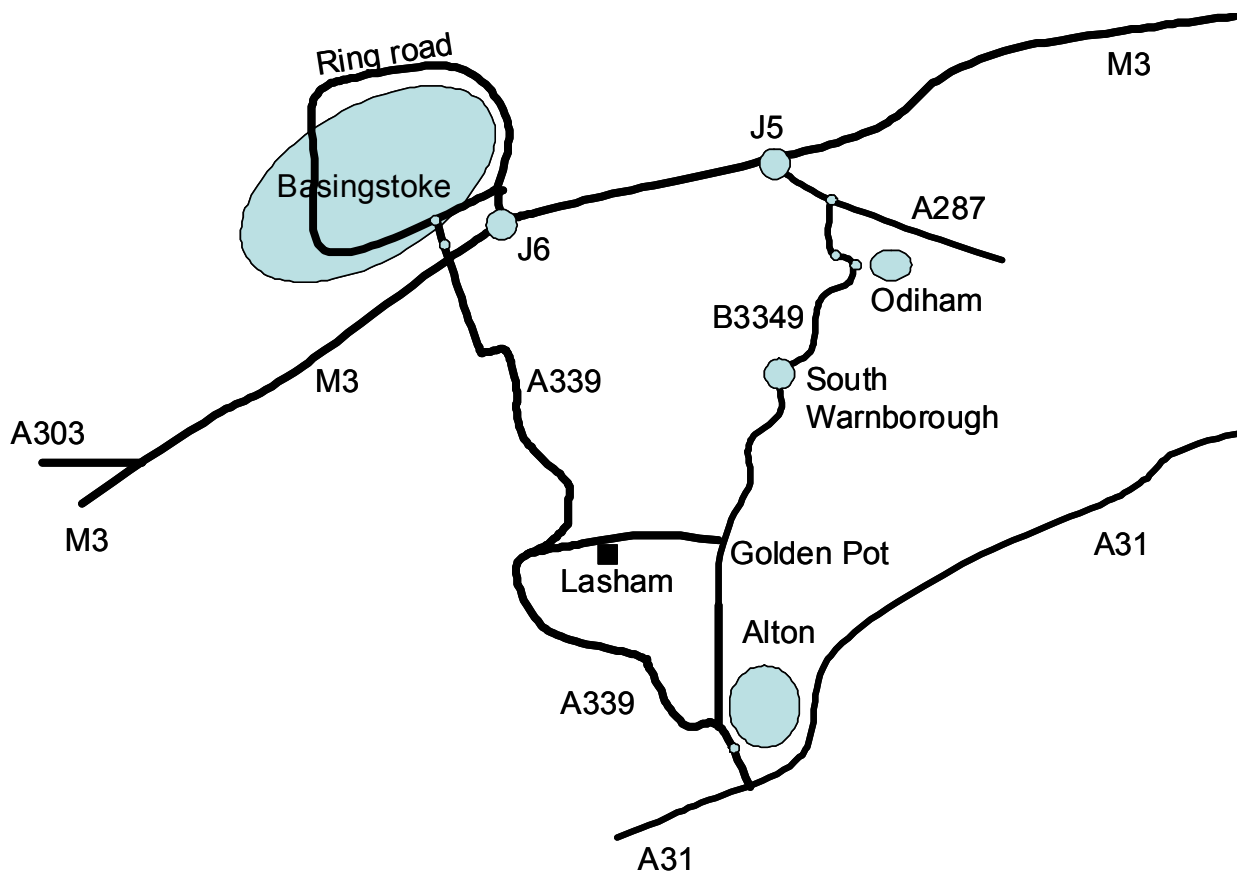
## Parking

All visitors to Lasham must park in the visitors' car park that is to the left of the main entrance. All visitors must report to the organiser within the club-house. It is dangerous for visitors to pass the barriers at the entrance to the airfield before they have received a detailed briefing about the hazards within the airfield. You will be escorted to the glider by an experienced club member.

## Clothing

Airfields can be cold, even in summer, so some warm clothing is recommended while you are waiting. The airfield is very exposed so a sun hat and sun block are recommended. Sunglasses are required if you are flying in bright sunlight. It is usual to have a waterproof coat not too far away! Suitable footwear for walking on grass & for climbing in & out of gliders is also recommended. Women are advised to wear trousers.

Map



**Further information**

If you have any comments, advice or questions about Lasham Youth call the Lasham Office or send an e-mail to Bob Johnson ([fwy21@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fwy21@yahoo.co.uk)) for the Cadet Scheme and Dave Bowtell ([dave@bowtell.co.uk](mailto:dave@bowtell.co.uk)) for Junior Flying. We also send out regular e-mails giving the latest news.