



YOUNG AVIATORS EVENT AT PANSHANGER 2011



PROVIDING INSPIRATION FOR YOUNG PILOTS

North London Flying School decided to run a young aviators programme this year in order to give young people between the ages of 11-18 an insight into what piloting an aircraft is all about. There were 18 young aviators that took part along with their parents for the three days from Sunday 24th July to Friday 29th July. The event was advertised to all the scout groups and schools in the local area. To take part in the flying each young aviator became a life member for £30 which means that they can attend future events and get the other member benefits of the club.

The first day covered aviation safety, an airfield tour, aircraft marshalling, radio communication and the principles of flight led by Ruth Killeen and Sue Hart. Paul

Knott one of our aircraft owners joined us and took the winners of the safety competition for a flight.



The second day was opened by Roland Knight, a commercial pilot for Thompson Airline and he gave an insight into a day in the life of pilot. Afterwards Jitesh Chandegra one of the instructors at North London Flying School gave an introduction to the PPL and what's required to get the license. He was joined by Daniel Scott and Craig Saunders who both achieved their PPL at a young age before they had their driving licence which really gave inspiration to them.



We were also joined by Captain Stewart Luck who bought a microlight that was built by young aviators as part of the Build A Plane programme. He very kindly showed them around the aircraft and took them up for a quick circuit which they loved.



In the afternoon, then Dr Rashid Ali and Dr Charikleia Lada from the University of Hertfordshire who gave an insight into wind tunnels and how fun aviation is. Noel Harvey gave a wonderful introduction to aircraft modelling through displaying his models and taking them through the controls.



John Furley from Bucks new university introduced their aviation related courses which gave them something to think about for the future. To finish day 2, Adrian Willis the

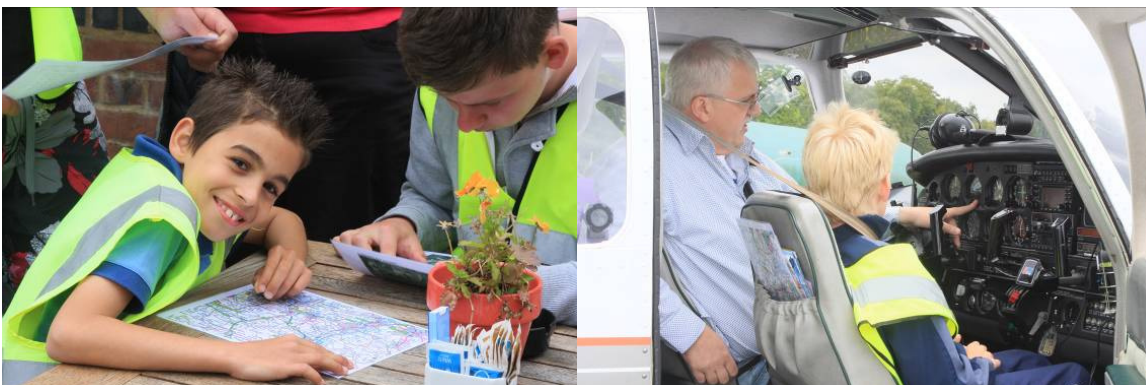
resident aerobatic instructor at Panshanger gave an introduction to aerobatics and showed them around an aerobatic aircraft (Extra 200).



On the Friday, Ivan Kurbanov one of the instructors at North London Flying School gave an introduction to navigation and the young aviators started planning their routes for the afternoon's flying experience.



Dr Steve Bond from City University London gave an insight into aviation courses and asked the young aviators what they wanted to do in the future. The responses were a mixture of aircraft engineers to commercial pilots.



After lunch, everyone including the parents were put into groups to get ready to fly with the aircraft owners based at Panshanger. A specific route had been designed by Colin

Hasting one of the participating pilots that everyone flew where they had to point out visual reference points on the way.

Some quotes from the participants

“my best bit was flying the microlight” Aaron Laister

“what we will take away with us is that anything is possible and who know, you may have inspired some future aviators young and old”

2nd Cheshunt Scouts

“the plane turning on it’s side to change direction”

“being part of the flying community”

“just loved flying”





Craig Saunders was one of the volunteers that helped out over the three days and achieved his PPL at the age of 17. *"I think the program has been a great success and the atmosphere of all the 'young aviator' days has been magical, to every individual, I have personally loved helping out as I've gained valuable experience".*

North London Flying School would like to thank the private owners, guest speakers and volunteers that took part as they really made the event happen as it's wonderful to give these young lives an experience that they will not forget and inspire them about aviation!

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