



Testimonials from some of our customers.

Hi Phil,

Got my licence today and planning to head up the coast this weekend to clock up some hours and practice those smooth turns. Had to go back to work today so have finally come back down to earth after the best couple of weeks. Thanks again for your excellent tuition. I can see, after that comp, how it has put me ahead of the pack already with regards to safety. It gave me confidence knowing that I could launch smoothly and safely while all around me where stuffing it up. It also gave the launch director, Neil, confidence in me. Afterwards he said he finds it hard to give novice pilots, who say they have only 4hrs experience, the ok to launch. But after seeing me pull off the classic "Hystek" smooth reverse launch, he said he would have no trouble letting me go anytime! See you in the not to distant future for the step up to intermediate.

Regards

Anthony

Phil,

Thanks, we couldn't have done it without your dedication to train safe pilots!

To get a compliment from you (who is known for his high standards) is an extra reward.

Regards,

Mike

Phil

How are things in SE Queensland.

I have had a week end and ten flights with Alpine of Mystic and really enjoyed the flying even though most were simple sled runs. I am delighted with the Bolero and Evo both working well. I probably have one extra day until I get my restricted.

At this stage I must praise your tuition highly, the thoroughness and precision were fantastic and a level above Alpine where adequate is okay.

I am sorry I could not face another 4days travel to Canungra to finish the course but I would love to if possible with you come up next week of leave to get some thermalling advice and have all aspects of flying critically reviewed. Could some of my licence course teaching time be used for this?

In a perfect world (for me) you would be based in Bright.

Once again thanks for the individual, careful and thorough tuition I received, it has given me far more confidence and ability than I would have received elsewhere.

I hope you have fully recovered from the delightful virus I gave you.

Thanks

Ken Mclean

P.S. Thanks also for the Gin poster, most inspirational!

Hi Phil, just a quick note to thank you for your patience and time today. I was pretty hard on myself after my last flight and was thinking the Oasis was too much, but I realise that I have so much to learn and desperately need to spend time on the glider so the Oasis stays... for a while:-)

So while I was toying with turning the Oasis into an innovative doona cover, I stand by what I told you... I will do what it takes to be a safe pilot and am most impressed with what you've shown me today. I look forward to more lessons with you.

Talk to you Sunday night,

Acland

Hello Phil,

Thanks for a great week of paragliding training ! I thoroughly enjoyed it and am looking forward to do the last bit of training.

You're a great instructor and I admire you for your knowledge and patience.

Thanks,

Mike

Hi Phil and Barb

... The time I spent in Canungra was the most amazing thing I have done.

...Please accept this radio as a gift in appreciation of all the time and effort that you put in to help me get the maximum flying while I was in Canungra. I will always remember how friendly and welcoming you and the other pilots were

Please pass on my thanks and best wishes to the other pilots who also supported me and befriended my making learning to fly in Canungra a fantastic experience.

I will let you know how I get on with my flying. Until then, thanks again and good luck with the future.

Take care,

Chris
(Chris Barratt. Traveler from the UK who learned to fly in Canungra)

Phil.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the time, effort and commitment you have provided to me both during and after my paragliding course

Thank you for your on-going training, encouragement and support. You are an excellent teacher and your enthusiasm is infectious but at all times combined with high principals of safety.

You are a good example for everyone to follow.

Once again thank you for your guidance and support, you are a champion paraglider instructor-pilot.

Yours sincerely

Michael Radja

Phil,

Thanks for the photos and especially thanks for the opportunity to fly at Flying Fox. I really needed to get up in the air again after Saturday morning at Tambo. I didn't want to go away with a bad flight under my belt.

Beechmont was fantastic but Flying Fox really has been the highlight so far. The best part was when you came up with us. The top landing was also fantastic fun even though I stuffed it up completely. I think I've figured out what I was doing wrong and can correct it next time. It was really helpful to see the video to get an idea of how much height I was losing by turning too steeply.

The takeoff at Flying Fox was tricky but also a lot of fun. The way it picks you up before you get to the edge is unreal. Also for the first time I have a picture in my mind of how I swung back into the harness too early. I've found that it's impossible to correct a mistake that you can't play back in your mind. Every other time I've tried to play it back in my mind I haven't been able to remember at what part of the takeoff I swung back.

We really appreciate your comments and suggestions and none of them are lost, it's just processing them thoroughly and putting them into action that seems to take so long.

Looking forward to flying with you again soon.

Thanks
Rob

Hello Phil,

Thank you for the photos sent with your attached email and for the earlier email and photos of Fridays flying.

I appreciate your assistance and advice in getting me to the restricted pilot stage and as a result I feel that I have a good appreciation of the basics of paragliding flight and safety. (Certainly enough to know that I need to do a lot more practice particularly to improve my ground handling and take off techniques!).

Thanks again for your interest and effort in training me. I'm not the quickest learner but I am always grateful for your tips and I do try to apply them as soon as I can.

I really enjoyed the flight at Flying Fox - it's a beautiful site.

Best regards,

Paul McCullough

From: Mark Gamer

I'm loving flying and am going to attempt to start making use of some of those thermals next time when I'm flying in good steady wind conditions. Although there were a few "oh shit, where is the biggest tree" moments today, I am feeling comfortable (but not complacent) in my launching (leaving the hill in style the Phil Hystek way), flying and landing and am learning more with every flight. I have watched other pilots and am confident that I have had the best training possible to kick off my flying and I thank you for that.

Regards,

Mark.

Hi Phil,

I was up this last weekend saw one "experienced" pilot and a beginner doing his first mountain launch get sucked around the mountain due to not understanding wind characteristics.

Once again THANKS for teaching me Excellent Method and Great Safety for launch and flight.

Your Friend,

Rob

Hi Phil,

just wanted to say thank you very much for all the help you are giving me. I know it's part of the course but I just wanted to tell you ...I appreciate it very much!

Regards

Rob

Dear Phil,

About twelve months ago now I paid you a small amount of money to take a course to learn how to control and fly a paraglider. My course finished a very long time ago now. Since then you have consistently given me great advice and instruction whenever we have been on the same hill at the same time, and on the odd occasion even when you're not on the hill. (You seem to have some kind of sixth sense that allows you to know what's going on with the weather there or not!) You have also helped me in many other ways in the last year, things like emergency repairs the day before a comp, putting the bloody reserve back in when I keep grabbing that red handle by mistake, rigging advice for my harness, speed bar, cockpit etc. I've lost count of how many rides to the top of hills you've given me. You're just always there for us (ex students/novice pilots) and I'm sure some times it can seem a thankless job. Well this letter is to let you know how much I and I'm sure others like me appreciate having you around...

Thanks again for your continued help. I'm stoked to be flying in this area, stoked to have such a great instructor and stoked to have you and so many other great new friends to fly with!

See ya in the air, Paul.

G'day Phil,

Thought I'd drop you a line to thank you for your expert tuition a few weeks back, and helping me get airborne in a paraglider. It was rather amazing to think that in just 6-7 actual days of training I was able to go off the top of Mt Beechmont. I learnt so much in that time, and what's more I felt confident & capable enough to do it. Since being back home, I see the landscape in a different way - steep or gradual sloping hills take on a new significance; I notice the location of powerlines and a swaying tree tells me a lot more information than it did before! Once you've been shown what to look for you really can 'see' the wind. So thank you for that enlightenment and for guiding me through the basics of paragliding. Although I'm not yet 'qualified', I do want to continue my course when I'm next in Brisbane; and I'll scout around Adelaide and find some of the locals who are into paragliding (know any names??) I'll let you know ahead of time when I'm scheduled to return to Qld.

All the best for your flying + with the business. I'm glad I decided to do my training with someone who has such a professional attitude towards the sport.

Regards,

Mark Bateup
Weapons Propulsion Group
Weapons Systems Division
Aeronautical and Maritime Research Laboratory
Defence Science and Technology Organisation
Edinburgh, South Australia

Once again Phil, thanks for all of your support over the past 3-4 months. At times when the doom boosters were getting me down and I felt like giving up and defecting to Rainbow Beach, you supported me.

I particularly remember thermalling over Tambo on several occasions when you were giving me support from the tow paddock. Those days were good days and great flights (for me anyway).

As I said to you today, I won't let you down. I know I'm very much a novice in this sport and will be proceeding with caution as always.

Thanks again,

Mark.

Hi Phil

thanks for the wonderful introduction to such an amazing experience. thanks for the time and patience . looking forward to coming back and completing the course . please email details of costs to finish the course and the cost of purchasing a glider as discussed .thanks ian

Hi Phil,

watched those landings yesterday.....Hmmmmmmm! I'm glad you told me to land properly getting out of my harness early enough and land on my feet ..when I look at those landings and they are advanced

pilots specially in sinking air, you taught to get our landing gear out first! It was right out scary, some of those landings, mind you there was some really great landings too, when I see this, I wonder if there is a need to become an intermediate or advanced pilot ...it's just a piece of paper in the end. Good I had you for a teacher , keep on teaching the safe way....it works just greatthank you for that (I'm feeling safe in my landings). Of course I will stuff up some landings too !! But I will always try to get out of my harness early as possible. Would have been nice to fly yesterday too, but I took out my friend, who got a brain tumor and showed him around he had a great time watching everything ...thats why I couldn't fly yesterday.

Thanks again for you safe teaching

Regards

Rob

Reference: Paragliding

To whom it may concern

SUBJECT: PARAGLIDING AS AN ADVENTURE TRAINING ACTIVITY

I have been a qualified Paraglider pilot for just over two years. I completed my training through a course conducted by Mr. Phil Hysteck at the Paragliding center. I often liken the way in which Phil conducts his courses as similar to the conduct of a Military course.

I would certainly recommend Paragliding as an Adventure Training Activity. Some years ago I was posted to 9 RQR and given the task of arranging a number of activities for adventure training. No simple task given the nature of a reserve unit, particularly differing levels of fitness, age and gender.

Paragliding has all those elements required for the conduct of such an activity, more importantly all ages; genders and levels of fitness can participate equally. There are risks involved but these are largely perceived risks.

His equipment and training facilities are first class. He would have the largest amount of Paragliding gear that I have seen in one place at the one time. Training is progressive, from ground handling the glider, to small hill launches and glides conducted at a turf farm to launches from mountains in the Canungra area.

On an important note, Phil takes pride in the ability of his students that complete the course. He sees them as a direct reflection of the training centers content, methods of instruction and adherence to safety at all times.

Sincerely,

R.R. Wilton

Warrant Officer Class Two
Mobile Training Team WOVNCO Wing Kokoda Barracks CANUNGRA QLD 4275

cc: Phil Hysteck
Paragliding Center of South East QLD

Phil ,

Thanks mate,i look forward to continuing my course even though it will be limited to the saturday arvos and sundays now because of work and family time.I learnt so much in the nine days and am gratefull for your teaching methods ,..

I will also be looking forward for any opportunity to practise my ground handling and have so much more to learn about the weather which i think will be my biggest challenge as i realise how little i know ..

Cheers again Regards Mark

Hi Phil;

Thanks again for a great flight off Beech Mont this afternoon!

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for the past weeks off patients, commitment and encouragement you gave me. I am now realizing that I have the best training there is in paragliding. You are truly enthusiastic, safety conscious, and a great teacher in your own way.

I will never forget the shear excitement and thrill off my first flight and now look forward to every opportunity I get to fly, it is truly one off the best things I ever started. I learned so much and do realize that I am just scratching the surface on what there is to know about flying. You gave me lots off confidence and I believe in time and with your help I will become a good and safe pilot. I hope on that journey I don't ever stretch your patients to much when every now and then my launches or landings aren't as perfect as I would like it to be.

Kind regards

Herbert

Hi Phil;

Thanks for the mod on the speaker mic, I go and get started on it as soon as I get to the shops;

I could be in Canangra this Friday by around 10:30 at the earliest and no limit for any weekends.

Next week Mon to Fri almost every afternoon from around 3 pm, you choose what day and if it suits you. Plus the weather gods may be kind to us on some days!

Thanks again for teaching as to what I believe is one of the greatest sports I ever had hands on, simply love every minute of it!

I send you an SMS Friday morning.

Kind regards
Herbert

G'day Phil,

Thanks for the kind encouragement. It certainly is a wonderful sport and I haven't even been off the ground yet. THE ginko colour is fine. I'll ring you in the morning to see how the afternoon is looking and thanks again for all your help, it is very obvious I made the right choice in choosing you to teach me the art of flying a paraglider.

Regards Wes.

Hi Phil,

Just a brief note to say "thank you" for two more days of excellent instruction. Even though we didn't get to fly, it was good to get a chance to handle the glider, and I feel my ground handling skills have further improved. At the same time, I realize there is still a lot to learn, and I look forward to my next training. Pretty strong winds and more showers are forecast for the whole of next week, but I will keep an eye on the forecast and contact you again when the weather improves. If you want to do a day of theory in the meantime, please let me know, I'm still on holidays until end of January.

Hope you are all well,
Regards,
Christian.

Thanks everyone for a fantastic trip,

I really enjoyed the company as well as the flying.

I've put some photos up, and if you like reading, an epic write up of the trip. You can find them at nickneynens.spaces.live.com

Cheers
Nick

Hi Phil.

I had an awesome time, I got exactly what I wanted out of the trip - lots of flying! I read the attachment from Craig too... we also had some things to talk about on our cab to Delhi! And it was shame I spoiled the incident free week, but really it was a "token injury".

Flying aside, it was a really good crowd to hang around with, as I got much more out of the trip than I could have got going there by myself.

Also I wrote a page of notes on the plane regarding a trip write-up, I'll get onto that very soon.

Cheers
Nick

Hi Phil,

A good news email - just thought I'd let you know I had two flights at beechmont today - short but good! First one I found some thermal lift and had a go at turning in it - will have to check out the vario readings to see how I went. (I figured out why I couldn't get the barograms, they were turned off on the vario!) Yeah so this was pretty exciting, my first thermals, since the flight with you when I got licensed.

Second flight managed to get some ridge lift off the spur in the northerly down in the valley to prolong the flight. Other Phil gave some good advice over radio. Again a bit of less than smooth air, lots of fun.

Thanks again for getting me going (unpacking my glider for me) at Tambo the other day - that was great fun and a bonus to top land.

So all going well, still keen, and looking forward to the India trip too.
cheers
Nick

Hi Phil

Just a quick follow up from our early telephone conversation this morning. I wanted to say a big thank you for the opportunity you and Jason gave me to experience flying over this weekend. I am so pleased I did it and felt first hand, the freedom and sensation of literally flying like a bird. It was great!

The two flights I took were breathtaking - nothing like that will ever compare...

Regards

Lee Turner

Thanks Phil

To say I had an enjoyable week would be a huge understatement.

When you were introducing yourself to us one thing that struck me was when you said that you really enjoy teaching people to fly. That gave me confidence in you from the start. For me the enjoyment comes with the confidence and trust. Confidence in the wing and the equipment, confidence in yourself, and confidence in the instructor. You certainly provided that. I actually don't know how you do your job. The level of enthusiasm and energy you put in is great. And to do it over and over, everytime you do a course must really take it out of you, not to mention the stress when we stuffup. And don't let anyone tell you that you're too hard on us students. It just shows that you're involved with the process and that you care enough to make sure we get it right.

Cheers, see you on the hill

Sonya

PS. I'm teaching Ed how to pack up his glider properly.

Many thanks Phil for Beechmont first flight, it was unbelievable. Also I think I will get a flying suit so could you let me know cost of one you recomend, so far your recommendations have hit the mark with products. Again many thanks, speak soon Re: next flight.

Regards Andrew.

G'day Phil,

Thanks very much for sorting out my licence conversion mate. I really appreciate it. It helps me out a lot re. joining my local association, the HKPA.

In addition to that, your classroom session on Thursday was irreplaceable. I found it comprehensive and interesting, and I thoroughly enjoyed the healthy debate on a few topics! I sincerely hope you weren't offended!

As we discussed, I spend a lot of long hours in the cockpit, and inevitably the conversation turns to recreational pursuits and paragliding. I have no hesitation in recommending your services to those interested in the sport. I look forward to seeing you again in the not too distant future for some flying, and if not before... I'll see you in Killarney!

Please email any photos you get from the comp this weekend, and good luck!

Please also send that article of yours (about glider packing) when you get a minute.

Best regards,
Alec.

Phil,

Thank you very much for the encouraging words in your email mate. They mean a lot to me. The effort you are putting in to get me off the hill safely is truly appreciated. I will do the test in the next couple of days and get it back to you.

Ta Phil
Brett

Hi Phil.

Thanks for putting on the launch clinic. I found it very useful & a good chance to see ourselves on video to highlight & hopefully iron out problems with technique. Some of the things that you talked about were applicable to a recurring problem that I had especially at an earlier time but which still occasionally affects my reverse inflations. I think that it is related to a flaw in my technique which you probably pointed out during my training days. What happens is that when I use a big pull to the right on the back risers to correct a large roll to the right, I unconsciously pull the front risers to the left. As I mistakenly move the front risers away from centre to the left, the left brake is applied, countering the movement of the rear risers & so making the roll to the right worse until the canopy falls over on it's end. The canopy always rolls to the right & never to the left because it's harder to move the hand with the front risers (the left hand) towards the right if the canopy starts a roll to the left. I probably should try your suggestion of inflation practice without using the front risers to break my bad habit of pulling them (& the LH brake) to the left.

Anyhow, thanks again for the clinic - it was much appreciated & I'll try to apply the advice which was given by you & Brandon.

Best regards,

Paul McCullough

Phil,

Thank you for the kind words mate. They really do mean something coming from a man of your experience. It was certainly a fantastic week that I will not forget in a hurry. I am keen as to get my ground handling up to speed so I look forward to some fun practice down here in the lowlands. I felt we had a great bunch of students and whilst I understand things get a little stressful out there for you at times you can take pride in the fact that I, like most of your students, come away from your instruction with the skills and style that set us apart from other new pilots. After the few flights we had (if you can call them flights) I can see how the sport can get a hold on you.

I will definitely like to come up tomorrow and check out Beechmont. I will call you tomorrow some time.

Brett

P.S. I might have a new student for you too. I was in the park across from my house this afternoon ground handling when my eldest daughter (Brittany aged 10) came home from school. She rushed over and in no time flat she was in the harness and I was showing her where to put her hands and how to build a wall. Don't worry, the wind had dropped to about 1 knot so there was no danger of her little 30kg frame being blown away. I was showing her the Phil Hystek way.

Brett.

Thanks for the encouragement, I had a fantastic time on the weekend and I hope with more training I will get the hang of it eventually! I agree that some ground handling in between lessons would be beneficial so if you are still happy for me to come down on Sunday I will buy the gear then...I hope credit card is ok! As for the rest of the training I will have to let you know, my director is still overseas so when he comes back I will discuss taking a week off so that I can get some serious training in!! I hope that I can arrange for this to be within the next month or so, I'll keep you posted!

Thanks for all your help, I'll see you soon
Rhyannon.

Phil,

Just wanted to let you know that I thought yesterday was a fantastic day. Ground handling, tow paddock and mountains, and all done by 5pm. Still got in trouble for the sunburn though.

Thanks again,

Mark

Hi Phil,

I just want to send you a special word of thanks for the flight on Saturday. Your professionalism and expertise certainly contributed to making it a fantastic experience. I am certainly contemplating doing a course, and would therefore appreciate it if you can forward me the details of your courses and their expected duration and start dates. I am however hamstrung by current commitments and might only be able to do it sometime next year. Just one more question: If I get my license here in Australia, is it transferable to SA, the US etc? If it is, what would the procedure be? Also, what is a reasonable estimate of cost to gear up for a sport like this?

Once again, thank you very much for a very enjoyable experience.

Kind regards.

Ferdinand Nel

Hi Phil,

watched those landings yesterday.....Hmmmmmm! I'm glad you told me to land properly getting out of my harness early enough and land on my feet ..when I look at those landings and they are advanced pilots specially in sinking air, you taught to get our landing gear out first! It was right out scary, some of those landings, mind you there was some really great landings too, when I see this, I wonder if there is a need to become an intermediate or advanced pilot ...it's just a piece of paper in the end. Good I had you for a teacher , keep on teaching the safe way....it works just greatthank you for that (I'm feeling safe in my landings). Of course I will stuff up some landings too !! But I will always try to get out of my harness early as possible. Would have been nice to fly yesterday too, but I took out my friend, who got a brain tumor and showed him around he had a great time watching everything ...thats why I couldn't fly yesterday.

Thanks again for you safe teaching

Regards

Rob