

The time has just been racing by, I've settled in fine, been here 7 weeks now! Your spies were correct, after the first 3 weeks of learning the ropes of the office and accounts, I was called to a meeting and offered a part time pilot position, alongside the office work. It's been a very full on couple of weeks getting the hang of the 44 and whole teetring rotor system, learning to land on the trolley at the airport, the pad at the office, drive the tractor and back the heli out of the hangar (that was the hardest part I think!!). I did my FCCC 2 weeks ago and passed, but certainly have a lot to learn, at only 220hrs and at the time of the FCCC I had only 6hrs experience on type.

I did almost 10hrs ICUS as I was not only learning the handling of the machine, but also flying commercially with passengers, learning the heights, radio calls etc as well as learning the commentaries we give to the passengers. Needless to say my poor little brain has been burning out but I'm finally starting to get my confidence. I went solo with passengers last week and today did my first volcano flight with passengers on my own.. and it went well! I have the commentaries down, and am just getting used to the swirly wind in the mountains and trying to avoid ash clouds! I've been getting a fair bit of flying this past week and have already done about 25hrs since I've been here.

Next month I'll be doing 2 days in the office and 3 days flying per week, and I most certainly cannot complain with that. I don't know anyone that has got a flying job at 200hrs so I am very grateful and realise I have a lot to learn still, but am doing my best.