**Timeline – Milestones in British Aviation***(Use the other side to fill in your own milestones from 1919 – today)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1783** | The Mongolfier brothers fly across Paris in a hot air balloon. |
| **1853** | Over half a century after he started his research into flight, George Cayley flies over Brompton Dale in his ‘New Flyer’ glider. |
| **1890** | The first aeroplane with a pilot, designed by Clement Ader, briefly takes off. |
| **1903** | American brothers, Orville and Wilbur Wright build a powered aircraft that can fly even though it is heavier than air. It travels 120 feet in 12 seconds.  The British Army begins building its first powered airship, ‘Nulli Secundus’, at the Balloon Factory in Farnborough. |
|  |
| **1907** | The Nulli Secundus airship is scrapped two months after completion.  The army grants permission for the construction of a powered aircraft, designed by Samuel Franklin Cody, at Farnborough. |
| **1908** | The first substantial aircraft flight in Britain takes place at Farnborough on 16 October. British Army Aeroplane Number 1 flies for 400 yards before crashing. |
| **1909** | Louis Bleriot becomes the first person to fly across the Channel in his monoplane. |
| **1911** | Robert Blackburn establishes the Blackburn Aeroplane Company in Leeds. |
| **1912** | The Royal Flying Corps is founded. |
| **1914** | The First World War breaks out. |
| **1915** | At the Battle of Neuve Chapelle British aircraft take aerial photographs |
| **1915** | Dutch engineer Anthony Fokker creates a machine gun that can fire through the propeller blades of an aircraft. The German Army use this technology on the Fokker Eindekker plane. |
| **1916** | On 23 September, a German airship raid on the East Coast and south of England results in around 170 casualties. |
| **1918** | The Royal Air Force is formed. |
| **1919** | The first British commercial passenger flight is undertaken from Hounslow Heath Aerodrome to Paris. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |