

Standard Repairs to Gliders

British Gliding Association



FOREWORD

Since the beginning of time, AP2662 has been the only official book available to glider Inspectors and Repairers. It was intended for powered aircraft, it was expensive, and now, like the mastodon when it was no longer precisely on the ball, it is becoming extinct. So, as so often in the past, someone in the British Gliding movement pops up to fill the gap.

In this case, it is the B.G.A. Technical Officer, Ray Stafford Allen, with the willing help of Cedric Vernon, who wrote Section 6 entirely, and many other friends and colleagues. Working mostly in his spare time, he has produced this volume, and presented it to the B.G.A. It is cogent, practical, and to the point. Throughout its common-sensical and work-a-daysical pages peep out odd words here and there which, to those who know him, mirror its author.

It is Ray, Cedric and people like them, who keep us in thrall to the sport, and earn for British gliding the respect of the gliding nations of the world.

PHILIP WILLS

October, 1966

INTRODUCTION

For some years now Inspectors and repairers of gliders have used as a reference book Air Publication 2662 A or B. This publication is becoming difficult to obtain, and in any case has some shortcomings from the glider repair point of view. A good deal of the material in it is irrelevant to gliders, and frequent reference is made in it to other technical publications, which the glider man is unlikely to possess. For these reasons it has been decided to produce a Manual of standard repairs to gliders. This Manual contains a lot of the information from AP2662 and most of the illustrations are taken from that publication, and the author is indebted to H.M. Stationery Office for permission to use this material.

Readers may be surprised at the smallness of the Section devoted to metal gliders. In this country at the present time (October 1966) we have relatively few metal gliders, and all these are of foreign origin. This situation will very probably change considerably in the future, but at the moment very little experience has been gained on the repair of these machines. In consequence the Section on Metal Repairs does not go into much detail, but covers general principles only.

Thanks are due to the many people who have helped in producing this book; in particular to the members of the B.G.A. Technical Committee, to Messrs. Slingsby Sailplanes, and Messrs. Elliotts of Newbury, for their technical assistance, and to C. O. Vernon for the weigh paper. I would also like to thank Laurie Watts who prepared the illustrations.

CONTENTS

Section 1	General Considerations Applying to Repairs	
Chapter 1.1	Safety in Flight	Page 1
1.2	Workshop Equipment and Tools	2
1.3	Protective Treatments	4
1.4	Logbooks and other Paperwork	6
1.5	Modifications	6
Section 2	Dope and Fabric Work	
Chapter 2.1	Dopes and Doping	Page 1
2.2	Fabric Repairs	2
2.3	Re-covering Components	4
Section 3	Repair of Wooden Components	
Chapter 3.1	Timbers and Plywoods commonly used	Page 1
3.2	Glues and Gluing	4
3.3	Plywood Repairs	8
3.4	Solid Member Repairs	17
3.5	Box Member Repairs	25
Section 4	Miscellaneous Repairs	
Chapter 4.1	Glass-fibre Repairs	Page 1
4.2	Perspex and Perspex Repairs	2
4.3	Metal Repairs	3
Section 5	Instruments	
Chapter 5.1	Instrument Repairs	Pages 1-4
Section 6	The Weighing of Gliders	Pages 1-13