

BRITISH CLASS 'A' HAND LAUNCH RECORD HOLDER
'COBRA' by R. Twomey

It is not always that a sailplane possesses both good hand launch and tow launch qualities together. This very useful characteristic, however, is noticeable when one flies the "Cobra". This is fully demonstrated by the 5 min. 46.6 sec. o.o.s. flight which won for its young designer the British Hand Launch Class "A" record. Everyone will agree that this is a remarkably good hand launch time for a small sailplane but the Cobra is far from limited to hand launching flights alone. For instance, amongst its best performances are an unofficial 31 mins. and a club record of 7 mins. 2 secs. from which flight the model was never recovered, disappearing into the blue at a great height.

Quite a few models can put up a useful performance given friendly weather conditions, but the "Cobra" is capable of holding its own in any weather. For instance, at a club competition it took first place with 2 mins. 21.1 secs. o.o.s. and 3 mins. 8.2 secs. o.o.s., finally being lost on the second flight. This was under very bad and windy weather conditions, and it led the field despite the loss of the model—enabling the owner to make only two of the scheduled three flights of the other competitors.

Construction is very simple as can be seen from the plan and very little difficulty should be experienced. Trimming is carried out in the usual way, first checking the C.G. position, and then trimming the model for straight flights before any circling is attempted.

Full-sized plans of this machine are available as usual from the Aeromodeller Plans Service, The Aerodrome, Billington Road, Stanbridge, Leighton Buzzard, Beds., price 3/- post free.



THE DESIGNER: R. TWOMEY . . . student of Ampleforth College . . . is Irish, but lives in Wales . . . secretary of the Ampleforth College M.A.C. for two and a half years . . . also a member of Cardiff M.A.C. . . . enjoys all types of models including the unorthodox . . . British Hand Launch glider record holder . . . best glider flight 52 mins. . . . best power flight 10 mins. 31 secs. . . . greatest success with F.A.I. sailplane.

