

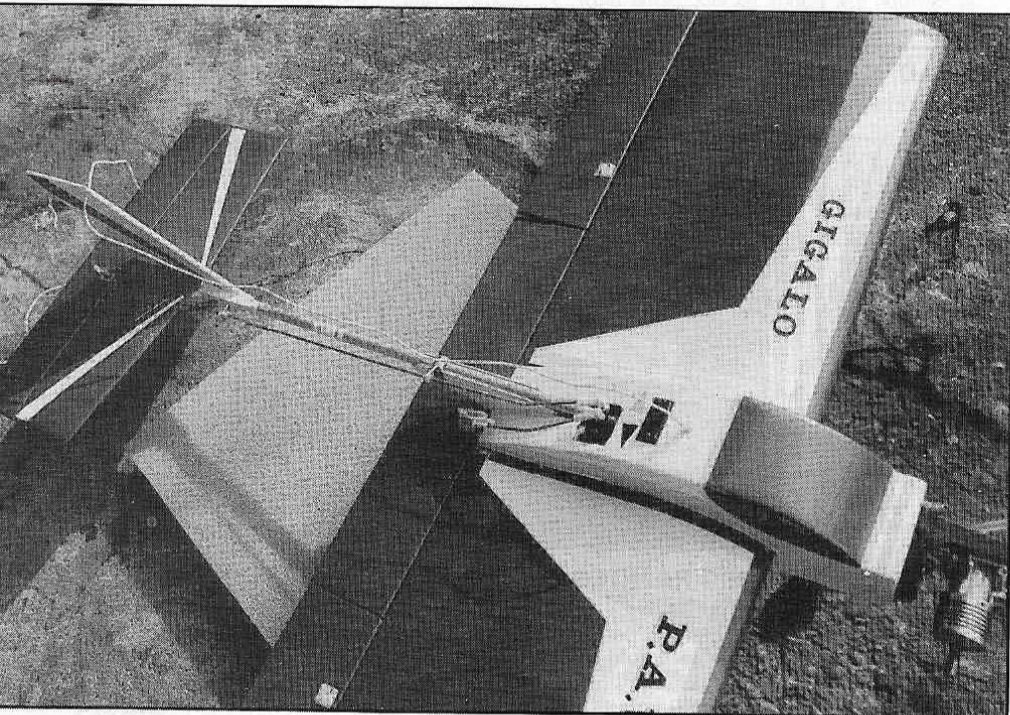
**Dig out that spare
.049 – diesel or glow
– and get building
Dave Ridgway's mighty
mite**



All set to go; model is very easy to build and great fun to fly. Coupled flap gives high manoeuvrability.

Gigolo

What's in a name? Dave calls his 'Gigalo' with an 'A' but if he means those flighty gents who are a dab hand with the ladies, our dictionary gives it as 'Gigolo'. Take your pick!



mind the following additional points. The wood sizes used are extremely generous and, unless stated otherwise on the plan, use light, firm good quality wood to keep the weight down. The wing is really the model; it has been designed to be very rigid with a flat rear section to the aerofoil to facilitate a warp-free wing. At all times during construction make sure it is well pinned to a true building board. Do read all the article before commencing construction. Glues:- The method of construction lends itself to the use of cyano adhesive and is recommended for most parts of the construction.

Method

1. Make a complete kit of parts, making sure the slots in mainspar and ribs are true and a good sliding fit – not tight, not sloppy. Cut out ribs using the usual 1/16in ply template backed with coarse grit abrasive paper to prevent it slipping on rib stock.
2. Protect plan with polythene sheet, pin down lower trailing edge over plan, position main spar over some scrap 1/16in sheet packing pieces over plan. Glue the two tip ribs only to spar and trailing edge.
3. Slip all remaining ribs over spar but DO NOT GLUE to spar. Now glue and pin ribs to trailing edge only.
4. Check fit leading edge in ribs, adjust if required. Apply cyano to ribs and hold LE in position until set. Now add the trailing edge to ribs.
5. Check everything is true and well pinned down and fix ribs to spar. I prefer to use PVA thinned with a little water brushed on to all mating faces. Alternatively run thin

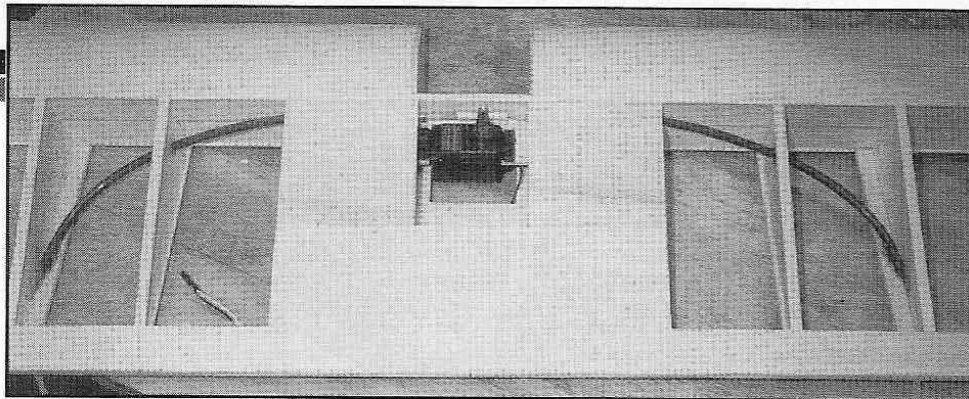
Way back in the '60s we Northerners used to refer to the PAW products as GIG's used in great numbers for Control Line Combat models. Enough history – now to the '90s. This model evolved from a series of small, very aerobatic models with their ancestry in the competition fun fly American designs. The full-size fun fliers are quite fragile and tricky to transport but these tiddlers are just the thing for throwing in the back of the car and can be flown on the

smallest of sites. The amazing antics they are capable of mean they are just the thing for letting off steam! It can be made 2 or 3 channel (with throttle) with or without the coupled flap system – it's great to experiment and have fun with – and I mean FUN!

Construction

The construction is very quick and simple but do follow the method given and bear in

**YOUR
FULL-SIZE
FUN FLIER
PLAN**



cyano down the joint and set with accelerator.

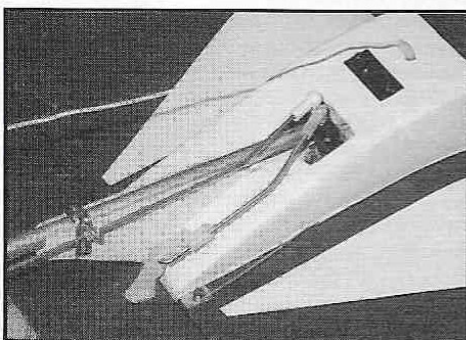
6. Put some packings under the leading edge just to support it and add top sheeting - I use this quick method. From nice light flexible 1/16in sheet cut to approximate size the top sheeting, check fit along leading edge. Apply cyano to leading edge and PVA to top of ribs. Place leading edge sheeting in position at leading edge, hold it down with a minimum of 24in length of wooden batten or the edge of a piece of 3/8in balsa sheet. Now apply cyano to top of spar and in a rearward motion draw the sheeting back and down to the main spar with the batten - holding it to the main spar until set. If sheeting overlaps spar, trim off flush to rear of spar with straight edge and knife.

7. Add top cap strips, servo mounts, webbing at rear centre section.

8. When set remove from plan, invert, pin down again and repeat 6 and 7.

9. Remove from plan - sand leading edge to section, add tips, not forgetting ply skid mounts in tips. Rear centre section sheeting. Cut out from centre section bay back to spar.

10. Trial fit the aileron servo and mark position for snake outer cable - I use bowden cable types but some of the lightweight plastic type could no doubt be used. Cut holes in ribs for outer cable and fix in position with cyano. Add an extra cap strip to bottom to surround cable at exit position, then trim off flush with bottom. Ensure cable has straight run to aileron horn. I connect inner cable to servo arm as shown on plan - this gives an easy to centre method. Lubricate cable with Teflon lube. If fitting throttle, servo fits alongside elevator servo, but inverted.



Coupled flap/elevator option; this pic shows you how.

11. Fuselage pod. Make up front bulkhead and fix sides after checking the sides are a snug fit to wing. Build basic box with boom mount former and rear cross pieces. Add lower sheeting and hatch - trial fit and add servo (elevator and throttle). Drill any necessary holes, etc. Make cutout in top sheet for servo. I now tissue cover fuselage

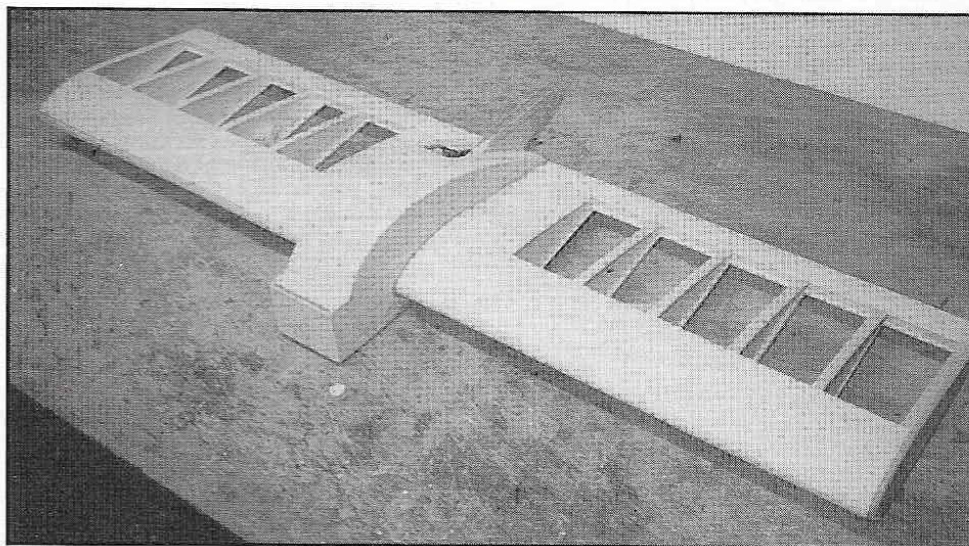
Aileron servo in position in centre section; note full-depth spar, capstrips and snake.

and give two coats of sanding sealer followed by one primer, rubbed down and fix fuselage to wing in this state.

12. Fix fuselage accurately to wing, using 5 minute epoxy to give a little working time.

13. When set, epoxy and glasscloth inside fuselage/wing joint also front bulkhead, brushing resin inside pod to fuel proof.

14. Make up boom mount and boom as



Basic wing/fuselage structure; simple, innit!

per plan - fix boom mount in position on servo mount and trailing edge, checking for alignment by packing wing level on board - then measuring boom height at trailing edge and tailplane end - adjust by adding shims of wood to mount or filing until equal measurements are achieved - glue mount firmly to fuselage sheeting and add ply sides.

15. Cut out and sand tail assembly - I film cover before hinging. Do remember to mark around any wood-to-wood joints and cut out film before epoxying tail assembly accurately in place.

16. The plan and photos show the fiddly bits - you may have other ideas. Remember to insulate the pushrod supports with plastic sleeving (snake inner) cyanoed to piano wire to avoid metal-to-metal contact. Tips skids are added after covering using small clamps as shown. The model should sit in a slightly tail down attitude, 5-10 degrees when on level ground.

17. Finishing - I prefer the following method. As stated I finish the fuselage pod up to primer stage then cover the wings in

film - for diesels use Polyester - I always use Powermax Polycote which is very light. I then mask the wings and spray fuselage with paint, finally finishing with film trim, etc. Do not drill engine mount yet.

Rigging

With all the gear in, push a modelling pin in the wingtips at the top of the mainspar, just below top surface. Support the model by these pins - adjust CG so model hangs nose down at about 20 degrees. Do not go beyond this for first flight. Sliding engine along mount is usually efficient.

Throws: For the first flight, if you've got rates, set at 50% to give 1/4in up and down for both aileron and elevator with rates on. Set flap to give lowest movement available on horns.

Okay, the fun bit!

Choose a calmish day. Do check all neutrals are set. For ROG place on tarmac -

release with engine on full song, allow speed to increase - I found model will track dead true and lift off unassisted - if not, just ease in a little up to unstick. For hand launch hold by lower rear fuselage and gently push (NOT THROW) at a slight upward angle - it should go quite straight and true. Once airborne just breath on those sticks until you are confident with it. Now off with rates and have a ball!

If on 2 channel, when the engine cuts watch the glide. If non-existent and very steep, the CG is too far forward - bring it back in small increments until you're happy with it.

Landings are straightforward - excellent control at very low speeds - do watch, especially with large flap movements and the effectiveness of the flap/elevator combo, that you do not overdo the flare and stall it at which point it will flip over and in.

Conclusion

Flying this model is great fun. Do experiment - I'm looking at using carbon fibre for the boom (bit hi-tech) and using a cheap 2 channel 27mHz outfit. What cheap fun - unbeatable!