

# Scale Soaring UK

The forum for all your modelling requirements relating to scale gliders  
<https://scalesoaring.co.uk/phpBB3/>

## Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

<https://scalesoaring.co.uk/phpBB3/viewtopic.php?f=12&t=1810>

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

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by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **10 Sep 2019, 08:31**

Having had a great day at Middle Wallop on Sunday, I'm trying to have a final push to get the Ka3 finished.

It was great to see two other examples in the air, albeit from different kits/plans. I had a good chat with Bill Cooke about his machine, finished in the colours of the full size at Lasham.



Apparently the first two flights on Saturday were a bit challenging, due to a slightly rearward c of g, but on Sunday, with a little more lead in the nose, she looked lovely in the air.

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **01 Jul 2019, 10:32**

snap, i fancy that one as well,  
i built the 1/3 ka8b , that was a good build as well

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **01 Jul 2019, 08:04**

*mick a wrote: ↑30 Jun 2019, 02:27*

looks great sean,  
you will really enjoy

Cheers Mick, it has been a pretty enjoyable build. Fred has done a great job with the design and cutting, I wouldn't hesitate to buy another of his kits.

In fact I've always fancied a 1/3rd scale Grunau Baby...!

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **30 Jun 2019, 02:27**

looks great sean,  
you will really enjoy

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **29 Jun 2019, 20:49**

Finally had the last assembly and control surface check.



A few things noted to sort out, but ready to start covering.

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **13 Mar 2019, 16:40**

Thanks for the responses guys. Mick, the tape is definitely an option and I have bought magnets as well!

I may try small elastic bands in a similar fashion to wing retention or a combination of these ideas.

Going to look at the struts tonight. 😊

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Keith**

Posted: **13 Mar 2019, 11:51**

The first picture is of my 1/2 scale K3 that I built and to correct a statement it was enlarged from Cliff Charlesworth plan. Sold it when my circumstances changed if anyone knows the whereabouts I would love to get it back. Sorry for the distraction. Your model is looking good they fly great

Keith

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **13 Mar 2019, 10:39**

hi sean

i used to just put a bit of blenderm (wing hinge tape) on

as the tailplane have the tubes in , this always worked  
another method i was going to use was magnets , but never got around to it

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **13 Mar 2019, 01:43**

Thin wing servos installed in the tail feathers, servo covers to make and fit.



Once I've figured out how I'm going to retain the fins, the last major job, before covering, will be the struts. 😊

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **18 Jan 2019, 00:42**

Cheers Mick, really must decide on a colour scheme!

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **17 Jan 2019, 20:32**

looking good

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **17 Jan 2019, 19:38**

Once the spoilers are done it's just servos



to fit in the vee tail and then covering can commence!!

### Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **17 Jan 2019, 19:27**

So, just coupling up the spoilers,



more of a fiddle than anything else, to achieve a reliable set-up.

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **11 Nov 2018, 11:00**

Hi Mick,

I think we've had the same thoughts with the struts!

I've bought ball links with a view to doing similar as you suggest. I think the photos are of a larger scale model, is it the 1/2 scale one that someone made by enlarging Fred's plan?

I actually found a full size Ka3 being restored on the Vintage Glider Club site. I messaged with the owner and he very kindly sent me assembly drawings of the struts. They're actually very model like, with a round tube and triangular fairing to the rear creating an aerofoil shape.

So I was able to source some aluminium tube of the correct scale dimension to which I plan to add a spruce fairing. The attachment then might still be some form of ball link, or I may fashion something in aluminium sheet.

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **11 Nov 2018, 10:35**

here are a couple i found (not mine )



here are a couple i found (not mine )

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **11 Nov 2018, 10:27**

hi sean

the struts , gave me headaches as well

in the end i got 3 mm bolt rod , in a carbon tube (tight fit) then put ball joints on end and bolted in , the supports i used alloy either side of plate

the first flight attempt the struts come out so that's why i did method above  
apparently you don't need then for structure , up i never took the risk  
colour scheme was just made up from various pics  
know what you mean , self employed as well and struggle to find time to build  
will see if i can dig any pics of the struts  
mick

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **11 Nov 2018, 09:59**

Hi Mick,

Thanks for the response, I've followed some of your posts on the Glider Ireland forum and I'm quite taken with the colour scheme you chose for your Ka3.

I would be interested in knowing how you tackled the wing struts, construction and attachment. I've found the model to be generally excellent to build, the wood quality and cutting accuracy have made it pretty stressless.

My main problem has been building time, being self employed you would think I could get more planes built!!

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **10 Nov 2018, 18:41**

here is link to video of maiden

<https://vimeo.com/133760686>

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **mick a**

Posted: **10 Nov 2018, 18:35**

hi

sean,

i built this model a couple of years ago, please feel free to shout if you have any hiccups although i found it a good kit



have a video on vimeo of maiden but can't seem to get link  
mick

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **10 Nov 2018, 18:13**

After coming to a complete halt earlier this year, I'm hoping to crack on and have this one ready for covering before Christmas. Not much left to do, construction wise, and had an informative discussion with John Greenfield at Gaydon about ideas for strut attachment and construction that hopefully has resolved a few issues.



Still haven't quite decided on the colour scheme!

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **07 Nov 2017, 00:19**

Early stages of the fuselage assembly.



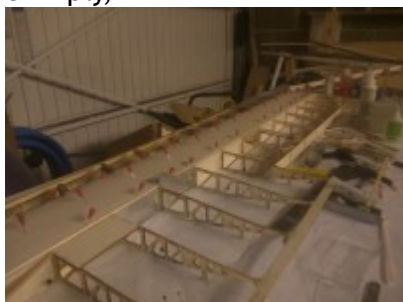
Early stages of the fuselage assembly.

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **05 Nov 2017, 14:41**

General view of one of the wing panels. Fred's drawing is based around skinning the wings in thin ply,



I decided to go with the balsa option, which was pretty straightforward to do. Much scarfing of

sheet wood ensued!

## Re: Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **05 Nov 2017, 14:34**

Initial wing root assembly



Initial wing root assembly with carbon tubes.  
with the carbon tubes installed.

## Island Models 1/3 scale Ka3

by **Sean Fitzgibbon**

Posted: **05 Nov 2017, 14:25**

Hi guys,

Thought I would share the progress to date on my 1/3 scale Ka3 being built from the Island Models laser cut short kit.

I began construction earlier this year and initially progress was quite slow as I sourced the other materials I needed and work commitments limited available hours.

I've recently got myself better organised and my aim is to have two models ready for next season's aerotowing, this one and Vic Steele's Fauvel AV 48.

Wish me luck!

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