This plan uses Silver Polyester Survival Blankets

To attach the keel, lay one wing down flat, position the front of the keel 5 7/8" behind the front point of the wing and glue the hem of the keel to the joining hem of the wing. LET IT DRY.

Lay the second wing over the first and position temporarily with masking tape. Run a light narrow bead of UHU along the upper joint (above the spine line) touch the other wing to it and LET IT DRY.

Lay the spine in position, run another light bead of UHU along the lower edge, touch together over the spine and LET IT DRY.

These LET IT DRY sessions are important, if they are neglected the parts may move and cause unwanted flight variations.

To close the pockets on the wing tips, nose and tail of the spine, fold the polyester over the spar end and secure with a narrow strip of carpet tape. For replacing spares, the tape peels back without damaging the polyester to allow access to the pocket.

At the front of the leading edge spar, a few stitches across the seam taped afterwards will prevent the spar from wandering.

It could be quite an advantage to reinforce various areas of this kite using a vinyl freezer tape (less prone to damage from damp) available from freezer centres or Lakeland Plastics Ltd. Vulnerable areas are:- leading edge from nose to just beyond the start of the leading edge spar, front edge of the keel, up under both wings and across the junction of the wings at trailing edge.

Carpet tape patch reinforcements for stretcher bar eyelets and also for the tow point eyelet.

The 3/16" diameter stretcher may seem too frail, but don't beef it up or restrain it, it is a safety link. If the wind gets too strong the kite may be wrecked or break away, but before that happens the stretcher will bend and break bringing the kite down safely.

If you wish to scallop the trailing edge feel free, it looks nice but is not essential. All my recent Silver Zephyrs have had straight trailing edges and the fly beautifully.

I usually fly the kites on 8lb line. When flown in a light breeze it will take off easily from your hand and take line as high as you like.

David Bloom

