

GLIDING HERITAGE CENTRE

Aircraft Summary Sheet



TYPE	Slingsby Type 15 Gull 3 – on loan from the Brooklands Museum
Manufacturer	Slingsby, Kirbymoorside
Year of manufacture	1939
Registration marks	BGA 643
Airworthy	No – last C of A expired in 1994
History	The only Gull 3 built by Slingsby. Under construction when WW 2 began. Test flown in 1940 and Co A in 1941. First recorded flight 24 May 1942. Sold to Prince Bira of Thailand (of motor racing fame) 17 October 1944. Owned by several syndicates in the 1950s the aircraft became based at the Oxford Gliding Club where it was regularly flown until 1966. Next flew in 1973 but suffered severe damage due to being stored outside in a leaking trailer.
Notable flights	12000 ft in a thunderstorm
Restoration history	Bought from Deddington by the late Mike Beach in 1985. Restored to flying condition by Mike at his Twickenham home and Brooklands. First flew again at the Camphill national rally May 1987. Acquired by the Brooklands Museum in 1998
Other	Prince Bira had a small white Highland Terrier known as “Titch” who often went flying with him perched on his shoulders, and with a small clear vision panel above so Titch could better see out! Titch was aboard on the 12,000 feet cloud climb. Kindly loaned by the Brooklands Museum to the GHC July 2013, so the aircraft can be on display in the Lasham GHC hangar



Gull 3 at Brooklands (Paul Haliday)

Date last updated

04/09/2013