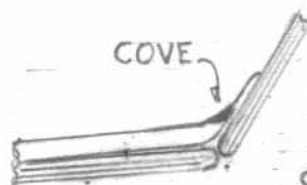
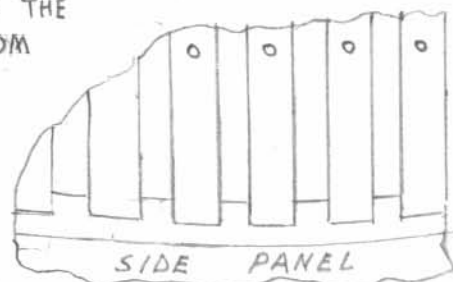


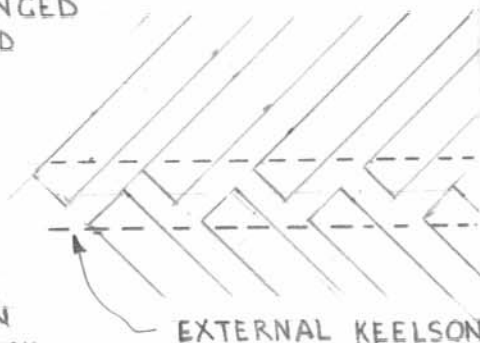
FLOORING NOTES

PLYWOOD DINGHIES REQUIRE REINFORCING WITH SOME FORM OF FLOORING SO THAT THE BOTTOM PANELS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO UNFAIR POINT LOADING. AND A NON-SLIP SURFACE THAT IS COMFORTABLE UNDERFOOT. TRADITIONALLY FLOOR-BOARDS HAVE CONSISTED OF REMOVABLE SECTIONS THAT SPREAD THE LOAD AND CAN BE LIFTED OCCASIONALLY SO THAT CLEANING DEBRIS, SAND ETC CAN BE CLEARED AWAY. THE FLOOR-BOARDS ALSO ENSURE A DRY SURFACE CLEAR OF THE BILGE-WATER GENERALLY PRESENT IN THE OLD WOODEN DINGHIES.

THE USE OF GLUED-IN PERMANENT STRIPS TO TAKE THE WEAR AND AT THE SAME TIME STRENGTHEN THE BOTTOM MAKES SENSE, ESPECIALLY SO IN THE CASE OF 3 PLY CONSTRUCTION. BY RUNNING THE STRIPS CROSS-WISE A STRONG, EASILY CLEANED AND NON SLIP SURFACE IS ACHIEVED. USING A GOOD GRADE OF TIMBER (I.E. TEAK, OAK, MAHOGANY ETC.) AND LEAVING THE TOP SURFACE BARE (NON SLIP) IS THE BEST LONG TERM SOLUTION. 25-40 WIDE x 4-5 THICK SPACED 25 mm APART LOOKS GOOD BUT THESE PROPORTIONS CAN BE VARIED TO SUIT. HOLDING THE STRIPS DOWN ON THE CURVED BOTTOM WHILST GLUING CAN BE DONE BY EITHER TOMMING DOWN (A LENGTHY PROCESS) OR BY USING TEMPORARY BOLTS (3mm). REMOVAL OF THE BOLTS BEFORE THE GLUE HAS FULLY CURED WILL SAVE QUITE A BIT OF HASSLE. ANOTHER SOLUTION IS TO USE SELF TAPPING SCREWS TOGETHER WITH WOOD SCRAPS TO ACT AS 'NUTS' UNDER THE DINGHY AND AS 'WASHERS' ON TOP. PLUGGING THE HOLES LATER USING BAMBOO SKEWER OR WOODEN SPIKES IS EASILY CARRIED OUT. OUTER ENDS OF THE STRIPS CAN BE EITHER FINISHED OFF PART WAY ONTO THE FIBREGLASSED CHINE JOINT OR BEVELLED SO IT REACHES RIGHT IN. THE LATTER METHOD IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE FOR DINGHIES WITH FORE AND AFT SEATING AND NEED THE EXTRA STRENGTH.



A VARIATION OF THE FORGOING IS TO FIT THE STRIPS IN A HERRING-BONE FASHION ARRANGED SO THAT A "WATER-WAY" IS FORMED ALONG THE CENTRE-LINE. WHEN THIS IS COMBINED WITH AN EXTERNAL KEELSON THE STRENGTH ALONG THE CENTRELINE IS NOT COMPROMISED.



WHEN A DINGHY IS STORED UPRIGHT WITH THE BUNG OUT THE FORGOING ARRANGEMENT TAKES CARE OF ANY WATER THAT MAY ARRIVE ON THE SCENE. THIS ARRANGEMENT ALSO HELPS WHEN HOSING OUT THE INEVITABLE SAND, MUD ETC, AFTER AN OUTING. SO TO RECAP - FOR UTILITY DINGHIES, GENERALLY STORED ON END OR UPSIDE DOWN THE CROSSWISE SYSTEM NO BUNG ARRGT IS FINE. FOR THE LONGER RECREATIONAL ROWING BOATS WHICH HAVE TO BE STORED EITHER UNDER A COVER, UP IN THE RAFTERS ETC THE HERRING-BONE SYSTEM IS BEST.

FURTHER POINTS OF NOTE -

1. IN THE CASE OF THE STRIPS THAT FINISH OFF PART WAY ACROSS THE FIBREGLOSS CHINE JOINT, USING A BATTEN MAKE SURE THE ENDS ARE PERFECTLY IN LINE.
2. TO GET THE SPACING ACCURATE USE SHORT SPACER BLOCKS BETWEEN THE STRIPS WHEN DRILLING FOR THE CLAMPING BOLTS. DRY FIT, MARK FOR GLUE LINES, REMOVE STRIPS AND REPLACE ONE BY ONE, THIS TIME WITH GLUE.
3. AFTER GLUING, PLUGGING AND PAINTING CLEAR OFF TOP SURFACE USING A SANDER
4. A NICE REFINEMENT IS TO MAKE COVES ALONG THE STRIP EDGES.

