

# AUGUST 2018



“Sunday 8th. July model show at the Helicopter Museum, Locking road, West Super Mare. I left home at 7a.m. and arrived 50 minutes later. An excellent drive over the Mendip Hills down through Burrington Combe, into Churchill and onto Locking road via the narrows of Banwell. Beautiful weather. Parking for us model clubs was right by the back door, so an easy carry of models to our tables.” *Full report of Mike’s mis-adventures can be found in this edition.*

Mike H manning the stand at North Somerset MS. Mike was the only one able to make it, so a big THANK YOU for flying the flag.

## Please Note:

Articles and news are always welcome for inclusion in this newsletter. BUT views and information thus expressed are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the editor or the club as a whole. Editor: Richard Clarke

Articles for the November 2018 Issue to me please by October 24th 2018 - Hard or Soft copy. Soft copy please email me [clarker@godolphin.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:clarker@godolphin.wilts.sch.uk) - Hard copy in my hand at a club night.

# Club News

## Theme Nights

Our theme nights are proving to be a great success, some imaginary connections to the theme, here is a list of the themes we have to date:

August	Tuesday 7th	CAPTURED
September	Tuesday 4th	SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP
October	Tuesday 2nd	WWI
November	NO THEME THIS MONTH - AGM INSTEAD	
December	Tuesday 18th	WACKY RACES

Richard C.

## Holiday Model Shops 2018

As you know I have been on my summer hols during July, not one for passing up an opportunity, I decided to see if I could track down model shops in the places the wife and I were visiting.

After a search of the inter-web prior to us departing for Malta, the first stop on our hols, I found lots of toy shops, but not a dedicated model shop, like what we have in Salisbury.

Landing on the IPMS Malta website, I found a link to, as far as I can see, the only model shop on the island.

### Malta Scale Model Shop

*"Building scale models has been my passion for over 20 years. I decided to make it easier for scale model enthusiasts to purchase kits and accessories. Thus I set up a sideline to our existing business by importing model kits and accessories.*

*Our aim is to make this hobby affordable to the modeller."*

Using the islands excellent public transport system, and a quick look on their website:

<https://www.publictransport.com.mt/en/routes-timetables>

I was able to pre plan our route to the shop. For the cost of €2 for two hours travel, we made are way to Birkirkara, a small town about twenty minutes from the capital Valletta. The bus stop was just around the corner from the shop, so not to far to walk in the morning heat. The shop is situated above a Lighting

Shop. We were taken up stairs to the shop by the owners assistant, unfortunately the owner wasn't in when we visited. The shop is split into four rooms, the area in-between is taken up with racks of AK-Interactive products. One room is full of aircraft, another is ships, the third has armour and modern vehicles and the fourth has modelling supplies, such as paints, glue, blades, plastic sheets etc, etc.

A full range of model kits were on display from the usual manufactures, Meng, Tamiya, Trumpeter etc. Prices where very good to say the least, for

example the Meng D9R, which I got in the UK for £50, was €45, about £40. Other kits where similarly priced. It was a shame I did not have room in my luggage, other wise I would have walked away with a few kits. May be next year....

But I did pick up a set of bolt heads and a tub of AK Interactive Water Gel, all for the princely sum of €4.



All in all an excellent shop.

The second leg of our hols was to Lincoln and York. We only had a few days in Lincoln, staying at Petwood Hotel, where the RAF pilots where billeted during WWII, notably the Dam Buster pilots. We did visit Lincoln, but that was an after thought as the main reason for being in Lincolnshire was to visit the **Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre** to look at the Lancaster **“Just Jane”**.

<https://www.lincsaviation.co.uk/>



Imagine my surprise when I came a cross a Mosquito under going restoration, had a long chat with the owner, took lots of pics as well.

We did not manage to get to scope out any model shops in Lincoln.

But if you do go then try this model shop:  
**B&H Models:** <http://bandhmodels.com>

Onto York for the final leg of our holidays.  
The model shop we did find, it was the wife who found it, is called **Monk Bar Model**

**Shop**, located next to “Monk’s Bar”, if you did not already know, Bar means Gate, of which York has four: Monk Bar, Bootham Bar, Walmgate Bar & Micklegate Bar



**Monk Bar Model Shop** has a wide selection of modelling goodies, not so much of the kit variety, plenty of die cast and railway stuff. I did manage to get a Tamiya Montero 1/24 scale for £25, a bargain I thought.

That’s where it ended, the model shops, not the holiday, well its back to normality now, work and modelling, until next year.

**Richard C**

## Mike goes to North Somerset - 8th July

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>. July model show at the Helicopter Museum, Locking road, West Super Mare. I left home at 7a.m. and arrived 50 minutes later. An excellent drive over the Mendip Hills down through Burrington Combe, into Churchill and onto Locking road via the narrows of Banwell. Beautiful weather. Parking for us model clubs was right by the back door, so an easy carry of models to our tables.

As I was on my own I took my time to lay out the thirty or so models that I had taken. I was right next to



some traders who I know very well and who gave me a much needed cup of coffee. The museum is undergoing some reconstruction and that meant the coffee shop had been demolished along with the whole front of the museum. A temporary entrance was to the side of the museum for the paying public and a temporary coffee and cake with a seating area was to the left of the entrance.

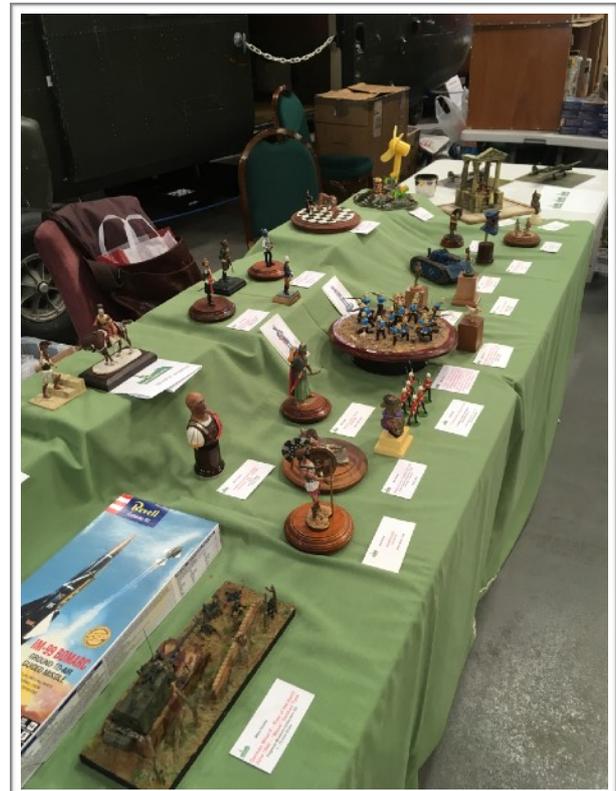
Thankfully there was a hot food – burger and chips – stand outside. Doors opened at 10a.m. and we had a steady stream of viewers throughout the day. This was surprising as it was a very hot sunny day too good to be inside! In fact inside the museum around 1p.m. the temperature was over 30 degrees, fortunately I had taken my battery hand held fan – needless to say the batteries ran out at 2.p.m.

Although I was on my own I meet friends from Mendip Model club and they took it in turn to sit with me and cover toilet times and coffee slots. Dave Berryman

popped into the Museum on his way back from Holiday in Cornwall and sat with me for a while. I had taken mainly figure models, a couple of planes and two tanks! Lots of interest in my model of the last stand of the Berkshire Reg. at Maiwand and plenty of pictures taken of this and the other figures. The downside of this show was that we were asked to stay until the museum closed at 5.30p.m. – I don't think so we all packed up around 4ish and being the last one out I left at 5.p.m. An excellent day meeting old friends and talking to lots of the public.

I shall defiantly go again next Year – hopefully with a bit more support from club members.

**Mike H**



## Sibo builds a MECHATRO-WEGO and says Huh?

I do like Sci-fi, (the gritty type not the cute and shiny type). And I try to source odd stuff for the shop too, so when I heard of Mechatro-WeGo robots I thought “sure I’ll try and get these in”.

When they finally arrived I was pretty puzzled. “What the hell are these pot bellied things?” Certainly not my idea of normal Japanese fighting robots or future Mech that’s for sure.

Summary in one line – “Human travelling mecha (like a taxi) to protect children commuting to school.” If you want the official fiction it follows in italics.

In the 1930s, Mechatrobots had been imported into Japan.

However, the machine did not achieve popularity, because its large size was seen as unfit for Japanese terrain.

In 1950, a machinery manufacturer announced that they were developing a Lightweight Mechatrobot, designed specifically for the Japanese market.

After seven years of numerous trials and errors, a highly unique and revolutionary machine was born, built by CHUBU.



*“MechatroWeGo” is a single-seated MECHATROBOT for use by children, with simple operations[...] The tough body of WeGo protects the child inside from unexpected accidents and crimes. Getting on and off the WeGo is easy with the help of the platform lift. WeGo is used by children living in mountain regions for school commute, and also as attractions in amusement parks. WeGo can be used on public roads permitted by the city or prefecture, such as in robot specialized areas.*

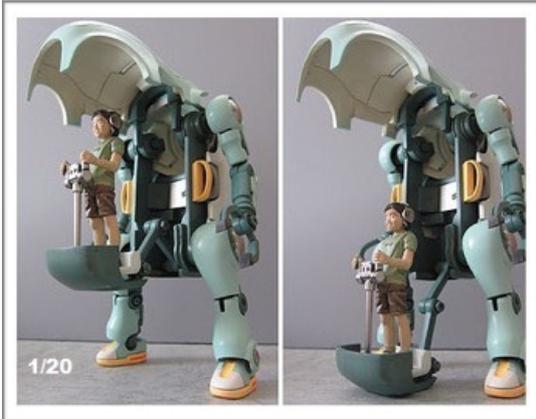
These quirky models have been available in Japan since 2006 but only recently did awareness in Europe make them obtainable. Initially produced as 1/12, then 1/20 and now in 1/35 the craze also had pre-finished die-casts with interchangeable panels. For me only the plastic kits were of interest and it took over a year from ordering to getting a decent amount into Salisbury Model Centre- I’m not certain yet if the wait was worth it. They are most certainly odd, and not everyone’s cup of tea- even the hard core sci-fi builders. They come in 1/35 scale (2 models per box) or 1/20<sup>th</sup> scale.

Sometimes sci-fi can be too far out and so far there has been no interest in these weird mechas and, despite falling in the cute category I figured I’d best build one to show people what they are like. So this is a build review with nods to the direction I’ve gone in, not a full description of the conversion.

I’ve chosen a 1/20 kit but re-scaling it by conversion and figures to fit a 1/35 diorama. The kit, by Hasegawa comes in a very bright box with a cartoon image on top, and photos of the model on the box sides showing some of the moveable options. On opening you are presented with a lot of different brightly coloured sprues. This was initially off putting as I couldn’t see why so many parts would be required for such a simple and hand sized kit? The parts count directly relates to the build quality and amazing levels of articulation – this model (like Bandi’s kits) is designed to be built without painting and each area that is a different colour has a part to replicate that colour.



The number of working joints is great - Manipulators open, wrists turn, elbows bend and shoulders are ball mounted; that's just the arms. Legs are similar with even little moveable covers over the ankles. The belly opens to allow dismounting by an articulated arm connected to an internal platform that lowers



to the ground. The head can be tilted open as can a roof hatch. Other bits clip on or off. The other remarkable thing given this level of movement is it can be built without glue. This is plastic engineering at its best.

After overcoming my reluctance to start I soon found myself marvelling at the fine fit of parts. But this explains the detailed instructions as poly caps of different size and shape are required to keep things tight. I really enjoyed building it, taking my time so as to ensure each limb was done correctly. Taking apart 'clip together' is not recommended. I always intended to

paint my Mechatro-wego for its new identity, but even if it was going to be kept in cute mode I think I'd still paint the parts.

My conversion in order to re-scale it involved applying Zimmerit, fitting an MG rail around the hatch and German vision slot so it now appears as a 1/35 walker. I took off one manipulator and replaced it with a Ma.K styled hand. The remaining Manipulator arm has a 30mm German cannon added with a belt feed of ammo. I'll decided once it's under-coated whether further WWII weapons should be added.

**Sibo**



*Thanks Sibbo for yet another Sci-Fi report, interesting take on these kits, yet another example of thinking outside the box, so to speak. look forward to seeing this one finished.*

*Editor*

## Salisbury SCI-FI Comic Con

On Thursday 3rd of May my young granddaughter telephoned me bursting with enthusiasm asking me if I wanted to go to Comic Con held at the City Hall on Saturday 12th May, feeling a bit sceptical I agreed and treated us all (5 in all) The reason for my scepticism these sort of functions can either be brilliant or terrible - Nevertheless the big day arrived. Armed with my Stormtrooper helmet from the "Empire Strikes Back" we all gained entry.

I made a direct line for the Star Wars actors who were in residence for the

day, who in due-time signed my Stormtrooper helmet. First to sign was the character Guido he was disposed of in the bar scene in the very first film "A New Hope" when he controlled Han-Solo and was about to shoot him when Han-Solo fired first and dispatched Guido.



Second to sign was Bossk, he was a bounty hunter and henchman of Jabba the Hut.



Then moving onto another excellent character actor Ian McNiece. This man never seems to be out of work. Playing Bert in the very popular Doc Martin and Sharp, along side Sean Bean & Pirates of the Caribbean, plus numerous other films.

Also at the show was Chris Barrie from Red Dwarf, BBC TVs Daleks were there, 12 in all.

10 Predators from the film of the same name, 10 Apes and Galen from the Planet of the Apes, and one person who had made himself up (very professional i might add) as Professor Snape from Harry Potter.

12 different Storm Troopers from all the Star Wars films, all in different and updated trooper suits.

2 Bobba Fette characters well dressed Bounty Hunters.

There were countless stalls selling all things Sci-Fi, a feast for the eyes.

Next year I will most certainly return to Comic Con Salisbury. My daughter and I will be going to Comic Con London, its considered to be one of the best outside the USA.

It truly is my deepest regret not to have ever met the true icons of the Star Wars films:

Sir Alec Guinness (Obi-Wan Ken Obi)

Carrie Fisher (Princess Leia)

Dave Prowse (Darth Vader)

Kenny Baker (R2-D2)

**Ray. R**

## USS Cassin Young DD-793

On visiting family in Boston USA a few years ago, it was agreed we all would spend the day at the Boston National Historical Park

On arrival the first ship we boarded was Cassin Young, she was built by Bethlehem Steel Corporation at San-Pedro California and commissioned on December 31st 1943.



Assigned to the Central Pacific, she first experienced combat in April 1944, attacking Japanese strongholds in the Caroline Islands. In June the ship escorted American amphibious troops that invaded Saipan (Saipan was also where US Marine (actor in years to come) Lee Marvin was seriously wounded and received a Purple Heart and the Congressional medal of Honour.

For service to his country he was laid to rest in 1987 after suffering a heart attack, in Arlington Military Cemetery

Washington.

Other Islands Cassin Young helped to liberate were Tinian and Guam, and in later years Iwo Jima, Okinawa.

In 1945 Cassin Young took up duties as a picket ship of which would give early warning of any impending air attacks on the main fleet, and this was where she experienced the onslaught of Kamikaze for the first time.

USS Cassin Young specifications are:

**Type:** Fletcher Class Destroyer

**Displacement:** 2050 Tons (Standard)

**Length:** 376 feet 6 inches

**Beam:** 39 feet 9 inches

**Draft:** 17 feet 9 inches

**Top Speed:** 36 knots (41 mph)

**Crew 1940:** 325

**Crew 1950:** 250

Anti-Aircraft Guns

Anti-Submarine Warfare

Anti-Ship Weapons

Compared to today's naval ships she was not built for comfort and the crew had minimal sleeping space. I tried to get comfortable on one of the crew bunks and could only lay flat on my back.

Cassin Young was decommissioned and mothballed at Norfolk Naval Shipyard Virginia in 1960.

She now has a new role being manned on public service in Boston and richly deserves her proud place in US Naval History.

Other ships we visited in the park were:

USS Constitution

The Mayflower (reproduction)

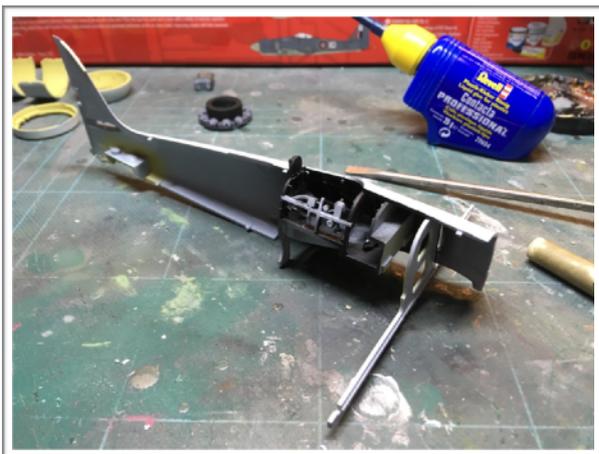
The Weymouth (of Boston Tea Party fame)

**Ray R**

## Build Review: Airfix 1/48 Sea Fury

The third and final instalment of my Airfix naval fighters trilogy is the much anticipated Sea Fury; to my eyes one of the most purposeful and handsome looking aircraft ever to fly. In 1:48 scale there have been kits by Hobbycraft - (good overall shape and dimensions, but very basic detail) and more recently Trumpeter - (festooned with over-scale rivets and some erroneous details). There has also been an AMG kit that arrived just as Airfix announced theirs, so I haven't seen or heard much about what they're like - although I do have one in the stash...

Reviews of the Airfix kit have been generally positive - but there have been some annoying glitches. Almost all the kits seem to have mould defects of one sort or another. My example had the "short shot" leading edge to the tail fin; others have had similar problems with the rear bulkhead in the cockpit and the trailing edge of the cowling. And whilst on the cowling, some reviewers have reported that the diameter of the two semi-circular centre panels is slightly smaller, when joined together, than the front and rear rings, causing a step; also that the panel line between the two semi-circular parts is too low. (There is a resin replacement cowling from Aerocraft models that apparently addresses these issues - I have a couple on order...)



The cockpit goes together very nicely. There are no less than six decals for the instrument panel that look great once settled over the raised detail. The sidewall detail is done as a framework that slots into the front and rear bulkheads. Less satisfactory is that Airfix have completely omitted a gun sight - they were a prominent feature of the real thing - there is no padded headrest and no pilot, which won't trouble some, but I always thought the option of a crewman was a nice touch about Airfix kits.

The cockpit is almost all black, so in fact not much of the detail is likely to be seen. Also trapped between the fuselage halves is a spar that serves as

the front wall of the undercarriage bay - and here we have the first taste of "Hawker yellow" - a sort of pale sandy yellow colour that seems to have been used as a primer or protective coat for various internal parts of the airframe. Having heard Brian (Rose) declare that he thinks Humbrol enamels are now redundant (and he might well be right) and being the contrary \*\*\* that I am, I decided to build this kit using (almost) only those paints!

I followed Airfix's suggestion of using Humbrol 74 "linen" for this colour. In my view it looks a little too yellow - almost a zinc chromate shade - instead of the more sandy beige that I have seen in pictures, but I stuck with it.



Before gluing the fuselage halves, I taped them together to mark out exactly the size of the missing "short shot" part of the fin. I then glued a piece of thin plasticard strip to the "complete" side of the fin, which I could then blend in to replace the missing plastic.



As with the Seafire, construction then went very smoothly and quickly, with a very good fit of the parts and little filler needed. I have yet to build a model with the wings folded, and this one was not going to be the first. Unlike the Seafire, however, Airfix do not give you two complete sets of wings for spread and folded options. Instead, substantial spars are used to create a solid join across the wing fold. Some fettling of the join is required, but the fit was generally very good.

There are four small raised panels along the top of the nose, right on the join between the fuselage halves. Inevitably these were lost to the tidying up of the seam, so I replaced them with thin plasticard - only to fail to see them on any photos of the real aircraft.... I was also able to rub down the strip of plasticard that I had used on the fin to blend it in.

The cowling on my copy of the kit seemed to go together quite well, but I still left it off in order to more easily paint the metal sections immediately aft of the exhausts. Departing briefly from my "Humbrol enamels only" rule, I used Tamiya gloss black acrylic followed by Alclad chrome to give a bit of bling to these panels.

The various control surfaces are all separate - I'm sure I have the rudder deflected the wrong way for the pedals in the cockpit, but they're impossible to see...

And so to the paint. I primed the model with The Army Painter "Uniform Grey", and then pre-shaded with black as usual. My intention for this one was to depart slightly from the options in the box and build it as a F Mk 10 (rather than a FB Mk 11) in the "early" scheme where the extra dark sea grey extends all the way down the fuselage sides. The undersurface Sky (Humbrol 90 - "beige green" as they call it) went on very nicely. I covered more of the pre-shading than normal for two reasons: first I felt that my recently completed Seafire looked too "shaded" and did not want to repeat that mistake; secondly, all the pictures I had seen of these aircraft in the early scheme showed them to be clean (and glossy). Moving on to the upper surfaces, I took up the Humbrol 123 "Extra Dark Sea Grey", loaded up the airbrush and set to spraying. Immediately I noticed a number of very obvious swirls and lines in the finish, that looked totally unrealistic. I hadn't seen these with the primer, and the Sky underside did not seem as affected - although there was some sign of them there too. Having bought a second copy of the kit, I looked carefully at the unpainted plastic, and the swirls and marks were all there - even in the same places...

I hoped that these marks would vanish under a gloss coat, so broke out the Klear floor polish in preparation for decals. I applied a heavier coat than normal, but the marks remained very visible. Not wanting to strip the kit back to bare plastic (and not knowing whether that would even solve the problem) I pressed on with the decals.



"2" from a generic sheet that I had to buy. Even then the "2" was not quite the right font and the "0s" were too narrow and of the "American" style with the angled corners.

In the end I chopped them up to try and create the size and shape I wanted... Final touches had to be made with white paint and a fine brush - they look ok from a distance. The underwing and rear fuselage serials were again made up from generic sheets - fiddly but worth it to avoid building the same airframe as everyone else.

Having eventually completed the decals, it was time for the moment of truth. Although the real aircraft were, as I mentioned, glossy, I hoped that my trusty Xtracolor matt varnish would rid the model of the swirls. And it worked like a dream - thank goodness. The grey took on a lovely, smooth and uniform flat finish. To bring some shine back, I gave the kit another coat of Klear - I wasn't aiming for a high gloss as I don't think that would look right on a model - but it was too matt without it.

One obvious difference between early F Mk 10s and the FB 11 Sea Furies is that the former had a four, rather than five bladed propeller. From the AMG kit in the stash I duly stole the four bladed prop and spinner and used them.

The undercarriage fits well and, the Mk 10 not having the ability to carry bombs, rockets or even, I think, drop tanks, that was about it for the detail parts - it was done!

I am bound to say I loved building this kit. Fit was good, panel lines are petite and it is just such a good looking machine. There are some annoying glitches that detract a little from the experience, but overall it is a great product that Airfix have given us. I would recommend it to anyone.

I had found a profile of a F Mk 10 in one of my reference books and so set about trying to reproduce the markings for that airframe. Those of you who attended the April 8th Flashmod might remember how confident I was that I would decal the whole model and even finish it completely in the six hours - and that I didn't get close... The decals seemed thick and unwilling to settle into the panel lines. It was only a good dose of Walther's Solvaset when I got home that rescued that situation. There are also quite a number of stencils, that take time to apply.

I also made a rod for my own back in that I had no decals of the correct size and font suitable for the squadron number "120" on the fuselage. I ended up using the "1" and the "0" from the kit, together with the



**Nick W.**

*See next page for completed model*



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# MEMBERS

YOUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS



# you

# Calendar of Events

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August	5th	<b>Model Show: IPMS Avon</b>
	7th	<b>Theme Night: "Captured"</b>
	12th	<b>Model Show: <u>Boscombe Down Aviation Collection</u></b>
	21st	<b>Club Night</b>
September	4th	<b>Theme Night: "Special Relationship"</b>
	18th	<b>Club Night</b>
	26th	<i>Last call for Newsletter items</i>
October	2nd	<b>Theme Night: "WW1"</b>
	16th	<b>Club Night</b>
November	6th	AGM
	10th/ 11th	<b>Model Show: IPMS Telford – <u>Scale Model World</u></b>
	20th	<b>Club Night</b>
	23rd	<i>Last call for Newsletter items</i>
December	4th	<b>Club Night</b>
	18th	<b>Theme Night: "Wacky Races"</b> . Our annual self powered model race