

IPMS Jan - Feb 25
SALISBURY

IPMS SALISBURY

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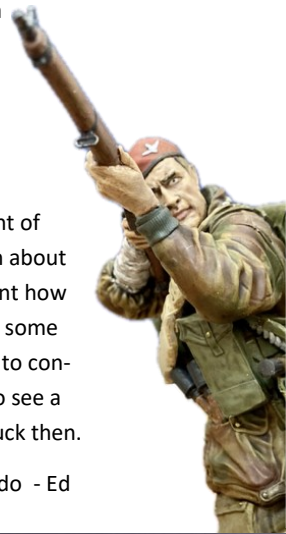


Composite cover featuring Richard C's
1/16 Radio controlled Sherman and
Sibo's 1/16 mine laying SS Sturmman.

Happy New Year (as I write admittedly), a busy time when it comes to things model related. The manufactures are announcing their intentions for the year, show plans are being announced and new projects started. Another common New Year element is the 'Resolution', we used to make it a club event to make a modelling commitment for the coming year. I have made the resolution to clear a few started models, I have too many 'shelf queens', I don't think I'm alone in being side tracked by a new release or excited by a new project idea. But it has got out of hand so this year before starting anything new I intend to finish at least 3 already started kits.

What was a surprise on the first club night of 2025, after conversing with the chairman about my intention, was with his encouragement how many of the club also made a resolution, some pretty wild. With the up coming GB also to contend with it looks like this year is going to see a lot of glue and paint used up too, good luck then.

Looking forward to seeing what you all do - Ed



Editor's hello and Latest: tying up club night info and passing on the news.

Reviews: Cover figure of the 1/16 Sturmman is reviewed by Sibio.

Articles: Short article on a new M10.

Weather report: Weathering reference. Weld beads and then modelling them.

Events calendar: Club nights and external shows and events. **Thursday night Royal Artillery Museum visit. New Date 3rd April.**

Your Club: Bi-monthly chance to meet your fellow club members. This issue Richard Hooker.

Comms check: Use the club newsletter to ask questions, swap info, borrow or buy from each other plus everything else that makes it into this issue.

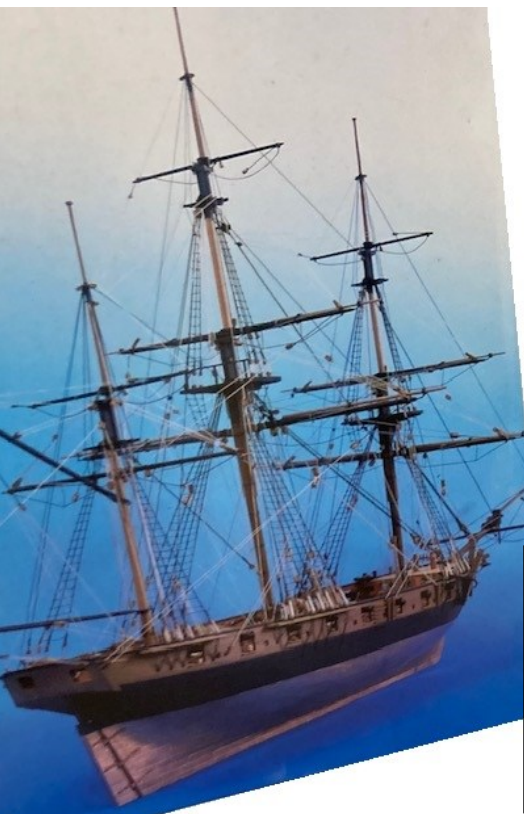


**MODELS
FOR
HEROES**

IPMS Salisbury supports the aims and endeavours of Models for Heroes. Donations welcomed at Salisbury Model Centre on behalf of M4H or bring to club evening to arrange handover.

Cold temperatures welcomed us all to the first club night of 2025 but the hall was quite welcoming and a lot of talking ensued driven by the sum of model related Christmas gifts and WIPs started during the festive holiday. It was noisy as Richard C had Tamiya's 1/16 Sherman running with full R/C set up, a worthy project over Christmas especially as it was a gift from Don. Bob has decided to limit his builds a little this year, focusing

on the Pacific theatre but also endeavouring to add to his 'tiger' collection. Also unstarted but on show was Mick's next SPAAG kit, Trumpeter's ZPRK Tracked Pantsir S1, a vehicle that has not long been seen in real life. Tony Hawkin's has HMS Snake underway, a wooden ship model that will look amazing I'm sure once completed.



Top: Para Sniper by Chris with ship borne AA by Mick. Remainder seen on 1st night of 2025

	Member	Resolution to complete.
1	Sibo	Finish 3 from the shelf of Doom.
2	Andy	Complete 4 models.
3	Oz	Complete 88mm bridge diorama.
4	Paul	Finish 2 WIP for each new model started.
5	Thomas	Finish Tornado model.
6	Don	Complete 4 Centurions.
7	Tony H	Complete a wooden ship model.
8	Steve S	Complete USS Enterprise...but which one?
9	Nick W	Complete 4 models plus the WIP Sea Venom.
10	Mick	Complete 5 models.
11	John S	2x Me110 and HMS Prince of Wales.
12	Chris S	Start Bismark and attend 6 shows.
13	Colin W	Build Airfix Seaking using Flightpath AEW conversion.
14	Bob	To build less than 47 models focus on PTO. An unusual resolution?
15	Tony L	2x Tintin models, a Honda CX500 and a Japanese model.
16	Dave B	Build in 1/72 every vehicle used on D-Day.*
17	Richard L	12x 1/72 Huey transport helicopters.*

All these and more look to be front and centre for the club in 2025 and as per the intro, the table alongside shows what New Year resolution commitments were made on Tuesday night. Paul C followed Sibos lead with the pledge to complete some already begun kits while Chris S has a commitment to attend more shows as his resolution. Whatever each member has decided, it will be interesting to take stock in 12 months time.

In between club nights an additional meeting was joined at the local Harvester to continue the annual model show's organisation. Laptops were evident on the night along with a few half pints. Tony L coordinated the responsibilities as the chairman ran through the tasks and progress made so far. Richard had set up a password protected depository so that those on the committee can have an overview of what is required and what has been done. Things will speed up now as confirmations from traders and clubs start to flood in.

Tuesday the 21st of January was a chance to get the website galleries updated with some well taken photographs.



There were a couple of technical issues but hopefully the website members Gallery will be updated soon with new builds. Some WIPs were also out on display including a challenging up detailing of the Tauro Fiat 3000 by Paul C and the Takom Ersatz M7 by Mick E, a Stug modified for the thrust into the Ardennes to look like an American tank destroyer.

With February being Group Build (GB) commencement, it was nice to see Andy had persevered with completing last years GB and brought along his LVT(A) in 1/76.

I expect more previous group builds might trickle through the year, especially as many members have pledged to complete stalled model projects, but the 4th of February was the night for a fresh GB to be announced.

About 5 ideas had been submitted prior to the night, 'Tiger' as a theme (any connotation of the word). A Matchbox kit with provenance proved. A soft skin vehicle (Landrover, Morris truck, Jeep or Opel Blitz but not a Civil car or Tank). Build a kit that first appeared on the market the year you were born and lastly, build any post 2000 Airfix kit, the polar opposite to the Airfix 'Vintage Classic' Group Build of 2023.

As with each GB, the event will run until 7th Oct and a page will go onto the website for those who wish to declare. The club had a good number in attendance and by a process of debate, random adding of ideas and final voting the Group Build for 2025 was decided upon. Just turn the page to see what we will be doing....



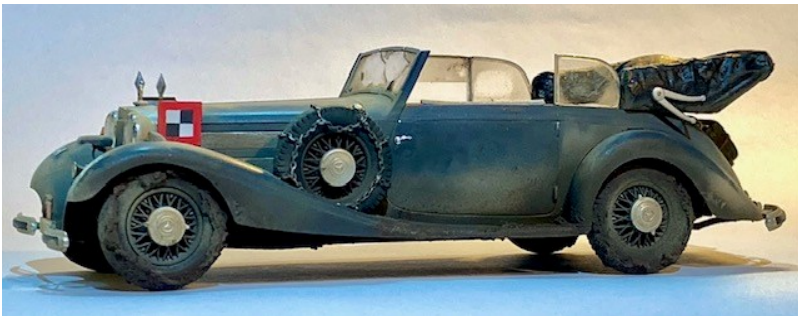
Vehicle combo from Richard, some WIPs from Paul and Mick. Not the new Airfix Lysander but the older Eduard boxing in 1/48 by Bob L.



While Group Build discussion was the main item, and we had a few last minute left field ideas added on the night, one of which, racing vehicles, scored highly on the nights voting. WIP's were out in force with pairs of members exchanging info on builds that they had become familiar with. Richard spoke with Don and Sibbo about Sherman parts and Phil and Chris S were in deep detail territory for the



Bismarck as Chris works on the Revell 1/350, Phil could compare with his completed and amazing 1/700 Flyhawk version. Chunky resin aircraft parts were evident, lots of detail being scratched on a Beverly and a Jug conversion about to be started. Another completed GB appeared, only 5 years after the 'Auto' deadline from Sibbo and Bob also had his first tick on the 'Resolution' list, a J1N1-s Gekko. Tony H's HMS Snake showed progress and beautiful craftsmanship, he had planked the hull by February's meet. Treasurer Steve S had a new build brought along, the older 1994 issued Airfix Buccaneer.



The announcements from the manufacturers have been plentiful, but Zvezda, being Russian have had less coverage in the press than the likes of Airfix and Revell so it was a surprise to see Phil's acquisition of the Soyus-2 rocket stack. A Vostock -1 is sure to follow.

The upward facing 20mm guns in the Gekko were effective against B29s, helping negate the B29 altitude advantage.



IPMS SALISBURY GROUP BUILD 2025

MILITARY SOFT SKINS* – ANY SCALE

In military terminology, a soft-skinned vehicle, also known as a 'B' vehicle, is a vehicle that is not protected by vehicle armour. The term soft-skin seems have first been used in military references in the 40s.

Soft-skinned or 'B' vehicles are often considered wheeled military vehicles such as light utility vehicles (Tilly or Landrover) and trucks (Bedford or Opal Blitz), but they can be any unarmoured wheeled or tracked vehicle that is not primarily designed to be employed for offensive purposes. However a wheeled JCB type crane would seem to fit, but Engineer vehicles are classed as 'C' vehicles and have a class of their own, so there is an overlap as you can see. As an example a mine laying soft skinned half track (like the unsuccessful Centaur Landrover) will be a 'C' due to the nature of employment but that same vehicle in a different organisation without mine laying equipment would be a 'B'.

Soft Skin 'B' Vehicles can be purpose-designed models specifically built for military service (Kubelwagen), militarised versions of commercial vehicle models (Landrover TUM) or standard commercial civilian vehicles pressed into military service (Mercedes 540k.) In some cases this class of vehicles may be fitted with vehicle armour for crew defence so in effect an armoured soft skin. As before there is some overlap.

Therefore the rule of thumb is - **is it an Offensive vehicle ? ie, would it lead into battle?** The Americans heavily armoured their logistic vehicles and armed them with .50cal HMG, that would seem to exclude them from being a 'B' Vehicle/soft skin, yet if we apply the 'Offensive vehicle rule' we can see it is still a 'B' vehicle as all those extras are for defence and do not alter the soft skin or its purpose underneath.

Don't fret to much – Just enjoy your build.



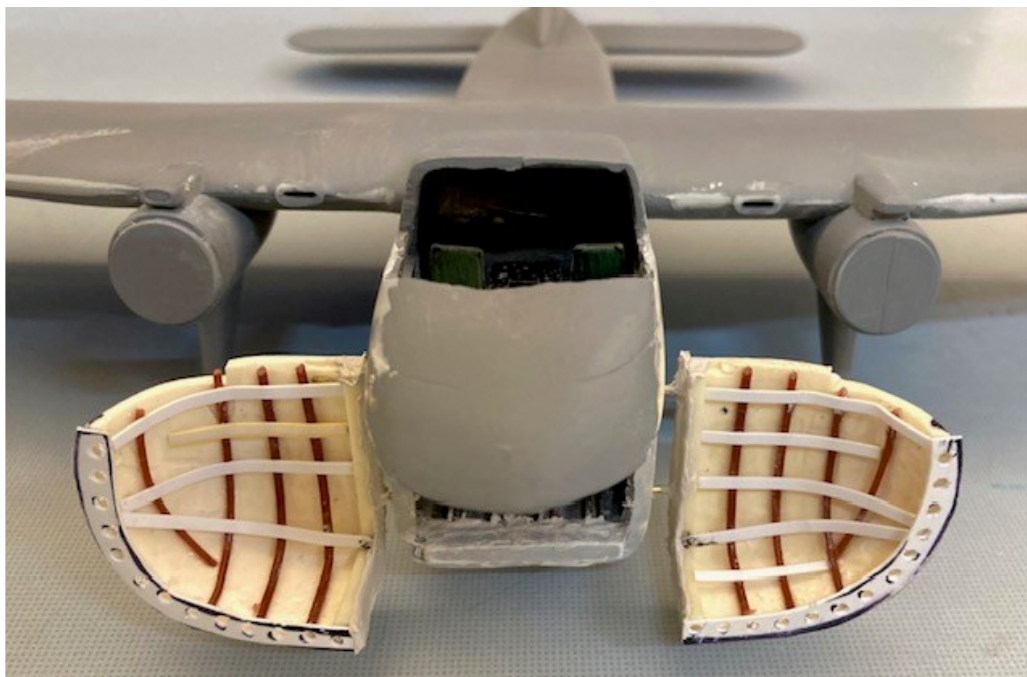
Left, the **FV432** upgrade; **BULLDOG**, an APC that delivers soldiers into the thick of battle, **not** a softskin B vehicle. Right despite a similar look, the **M548** is not an APC but a tracked supply vehicle, **it is** a 'B' vehicle. Below; the flawed Centaur.



*Definition provided by Wikipedia and Sibbo

GB25

Plastic foremost, but a club for modellers also using Resin, Wood & Card to create Figures, Tanks, Aircraft, Sci-fi & Boats. Pretty much anything!

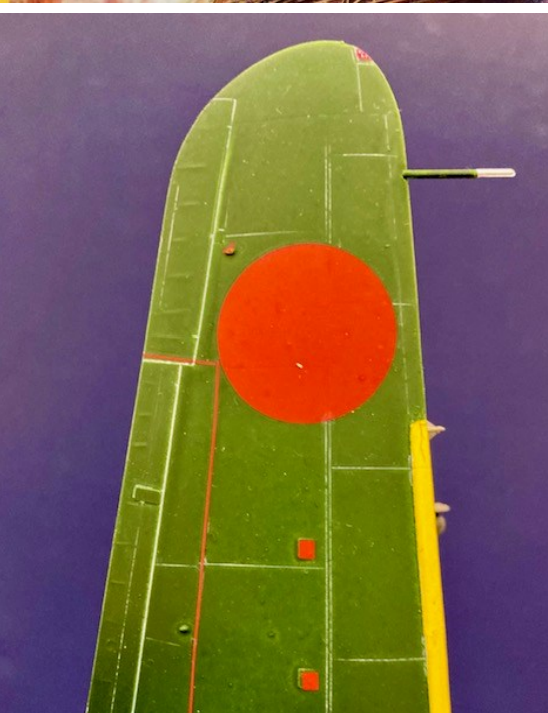


14th Feb, Valentines day. If you received a card you probably felt lucky, but Nick W was presented with a beautifully framed set of pictures mounted with his medal from SMC Eindhoven 2024. His wife had been able to get his Harrier photographed and the set put together with out Nick's knowledge and the result is a work of art that will be far easier to display. Certainly something to think about when space for storage boxes is running out.

Final club night for Feb had Sibb give a second illustrated talk on Cold War Soviet Warfare, focused on Engineer support to the advance. A chunky subject but having had the groundwork laid in last years presentation on Soviet Cold War Tactics the delivery was well received. WIPs were not as plentiful, though Phil had progress to show on his Tornados. Nick had a finished Sea Vampire that is set to appear in the May/June newsletter, and Paul C another completed build, an ISU-152K. Bob L also had another of his resolution build's done. A lovely 1/48 'Judy' from Finemolds. The lighter panel lines were excellent.



Mike Hobbs will be away for a while, convalescing due to hospitalisation but it was nice to have a new face arrive. Julian sat through Sibb's talk, but hopefully that won't have put him off becoming a committed member. His interest in FAA found him sat along side Nick as a kindred spirit.



Review: SS Sturmmann* 1/16 by Andreas Miniatures

* Sturmmann is an SS rank equivalent to the Heer Gefreiter, a senior private. In role a Sturmmann is like a British L/Cpl.



This 1/16 figure is by Andreas Miniatures, code LEK-F002. Titled SS Sturmmann, 1940 from the 'Eisernes Kreuz' Series though I think I ended up with a recast as I bought it in good faith via Ebay from a private seller. The original, available in 2 scales (1/16 and 1/35), is resin with some white metal parts. Mine arrived as a solely resin kit.

Regardless, this review is taken as the Andreas Miniature. As it's a review I won't be going into excessive detail on the techniques I used for painting.

The sculpting to realise the relaxed but purposeful pose of this SS soldier is perfect from the folds and creases in the jacket and trousers to the subtle look of concern in the face. The hard equipment such as rifle, gas mask container and mess kit is detailed and well proportioned. The breakdown of parts has been done well so that the head and neck and the lower bare arms all fit into natural sockets caused by the sculpted material elements.

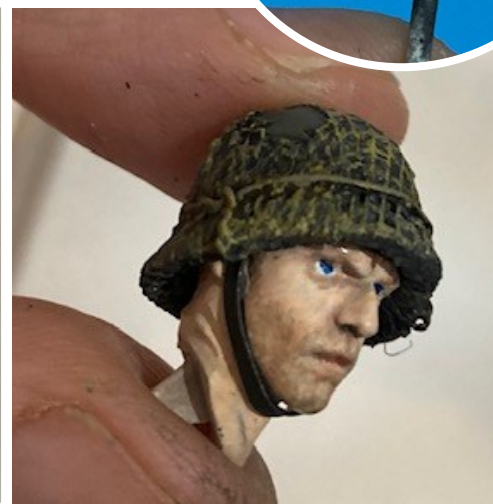
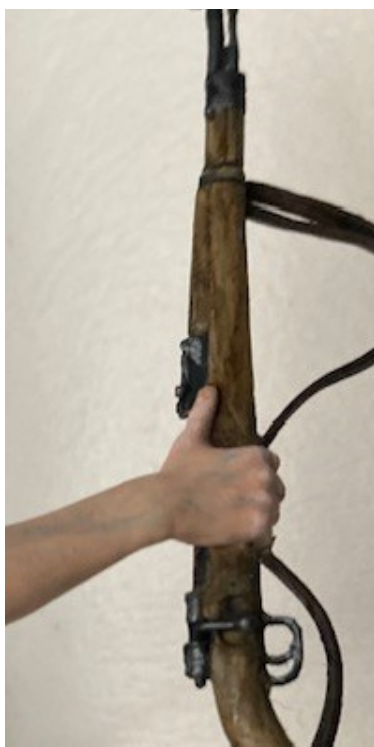
As the face of a figure is the primary focal point I'll expand on the head of this piece. It is clean, there is no helmet strap moulded in place just the slightest indication of where it would pull under the chin. I

initially painted the line of a strap but when assembling the helmet to head realised a separate item (I used lead foil) was better to give some gaps for light to be seen where the straps attachment to the inside rim of the helmet is made. The helmet is supplied with a canvas cover moulded in place, the same camouflage material as the SS smock uses. Due to the research I had made regarding a specific SS unit I removed the cover using files and sandpaper before adding micro gauze and twisted wire to give an earlier netted version of helmet camouflage. The face captures a young man with out any harsh features, but very precise lines and the slightest of scowls. I used paint to add a little more furrowing to the brow to increase the intensity of his look. In some ways I should have left it there, I really like how the soldiers face looked, but the sculptor indicates the figure is meant to be Normandy and as I was modelling an Eastern Front soldier, I revisited the face to give more haunted deep-set eyes, with darker rings.

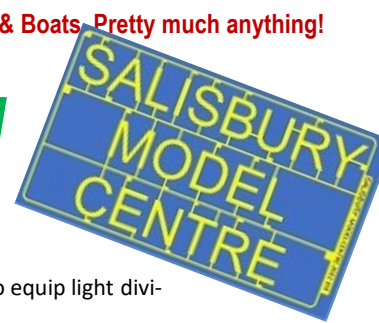
The right hand with lower arm is holding a K98 rifle all moulded as one part so the grip is tight around the wooden furniture, the left hand is in a relaxed pose. I reshaped the fingers on mine to have it gripping a Tellermine. I experimented with thinned paint washes to apply colour, underlining the arms and hands with blue to mimic veins, layering up skin hues to reduce the blue and define knuckles and nails.

All the infantryman's kit except ammo pouches was painted separately. The gas mask container has a gas cape wrapped around it, the entrenching tool has the bayonet and scabbard as the same part, a map case and water bottle are also provided, as incidentally is a small area of grassed base to mount the 1/16 figure on (that I discarded).

This piece is beautiful, the subtlety of pose is brilliant and understated. The sculptor has done an amazing job that rewards painting. - Sibö



Article: New Kit equals New kit. M10 BOOKER AISV



When I saw a new kit on the shelves of Salisbury Model Centre of an AFV that was completely new to me I had to do a little digging to get myself up to speed.

The Kit from Magic Factory is of the pre production M10, a new AFV in service with the 82nd Airbourne and set to equip light division and national guard units.

The box has 2008 under the pre-production title, but this is misleading as that is just the kit number nothing to do with the date of the actual vehicle the model is based on. In fact the decal sheet has markings for 2023 and the real world M10 was brought into military service February 2024. What is the M10 Booker? A quote from Maj. Gen. Glenn Dean, program executive officer of Army Ground Combat Systems. "The M10 Booker is an armored vehicle that is intended to support our Infantry Brigade Combat Teams by suppressing and destroying fortifications, gun systems and trench routes, and then secondarily providing protection against enemy armored vehicles,"

An Armoured Infantry Support Vehicle (AISV), what might have been called an assault gun in WWII terms, though in modern US doctrine it is also quoted as a recce tank as much as an anti fortification vehicle that can provide fire support and engage AFV's if needed.

It has been heavily based on the ASCOD, which as a design seems to have become the frame for so many modern light AFV. Being so new though has some odd facts appearing on the internet. I will therefore not put down the supposed speed, armour or range of the vehicle here. The gun is a 105mm but a low recoil type not the type fitted to early M1 Abrams as has been mis-quoted. In fact the whole M10 design has developed from a number of previous US initiatives as well as the proven ASCOD such as M8 AGS and GDLS Griffin II. The Griffin II was the US Army preferred winner of the Mobile Protected Firepower (MPF) program which led to the M10 Booker contract.

The kit is available from Oz at £49.99 (before club discount) and is very highly detailed with metal barrel, photoetch parts and some complex multipart individual track links to be assembled that use plastic parts on metal pins. Note, there is no need to build track sag on this model as the M10 has taught track runs. A small clear sprue for optics as well as self adhesive sheets, 1 for masking, the other providing a simulated anti laser coating for the vision blocks. 4 schemes are provided, only 2 are in service vehicles, 1 is pre-production and the other a 'what if'.



Screen capture from GDLS website of trails of pre-production M10. Below is the box art from Magic Factory under which is an ULAN and AJAX.



Please Sir, can I have some more?

The ASCOD has gone from a floundering joint development to international success.

A joint design attempt between the Greek MoD using Steyr Hellas (later ELVO) and the Austrian Steyr-Daimler-Puch failed and resulted in the Greek element being signed over to the Austrians in payment for unfulfilled contracts. A cooperation with the Spanish 'Empresa Nacional Santa Barbara S. A.' was signed, which led to the development of ASCOD (Austrian Spanish Cooperative Development).

First prototypes were for Norway who actually went on to buy the Swedish CV9030. After more development the Spanish purchased the evolved design calling it 'PIZARRO'.

After Spain's 144, the Austrian's bought 112 calling them 'ULAN'. In 2010 the UK MoD purchased the ASCOD2 as the platform for AJAX.

In 2020 the Philippine Dept of Defence committed to the ASCOD2 with an indigenous 105mm turret called SABRAH.

The M10 BOOKER's lineage is the Griffin II which was developed from the ASCOD2

Latvia has chosen the ASCOD2 platform but not yet initiated it's introduction to replace CVR(T), and dependant on how the current conflict finishes, Ukraine has pledged to have ASCOD2.

Weather Report- WELD DONE!

A little fun with real world inspiration, tips and useful product information.

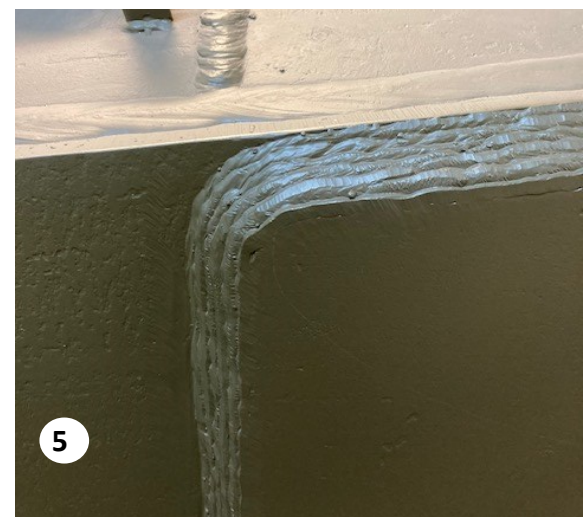
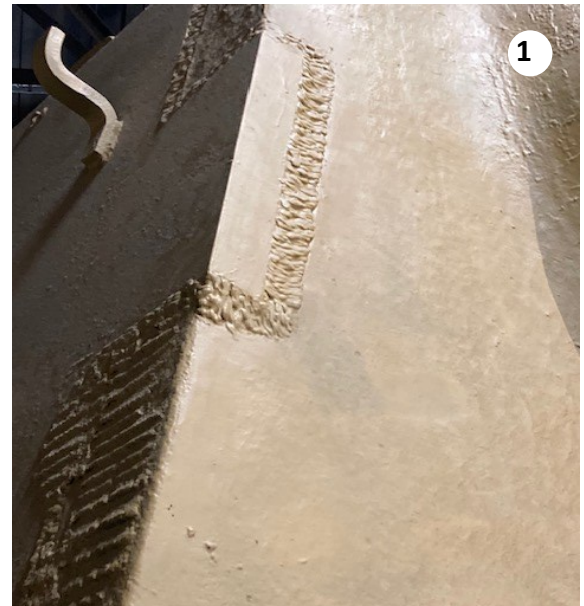
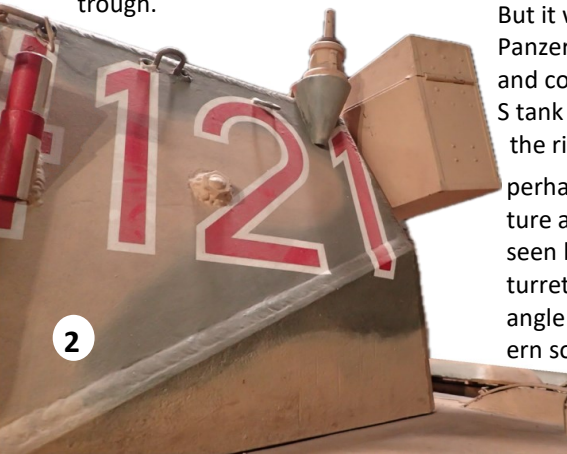
A common element on AFV kits that is often called out by reviewers as either well rendered or lacking in detail are so called weld marks, usually running between armour panels. In truth weld marks appear everywhere on a tank, not just the panel joints but from small marks attaching grab handles or tie down loops, to much more substantial layering of welds to bond lifting hooks and towing points on hulls and turret tops.

The small compilation of pictures below is intended to show however that there is more to weld lines than just the commonly seen / improved type that most German AFV's had (1). The box joint style employed by German manufactures to piece together the huge armoured plates in use on late WWII Panzers, alleviating some of the pressure that would be placed on a join. The bead on this Jagdtiger is what passes as a common weld mark, the rippled scalloped shaped line running along the joint line, often in a trough.

But it would be wrong to think of this as a 'German' weld line as the neat line on the Light Panzer 'Luchs' shows (2). Applied in exactly the same manner, but with a much more precise and controlled method resulting in a smooth bead. Picture (3) the T-80, and (4) the Swedish S tank both also have the same rippled scallop weld marks as the Jagdtiger but after welding, the ridge of the bead has been worked over with a grinder to smooth out the ripples. This is

perhaps a luxury that peacetime manufacture allows for the Swedes but as can be seen by the hacked joint alongside the turret hatch on the T-80, tidying up with an angle grinder seems a necessity on modern soviet hardware.

Compare that to a WWII Sherman's additional armour on the hull (5).



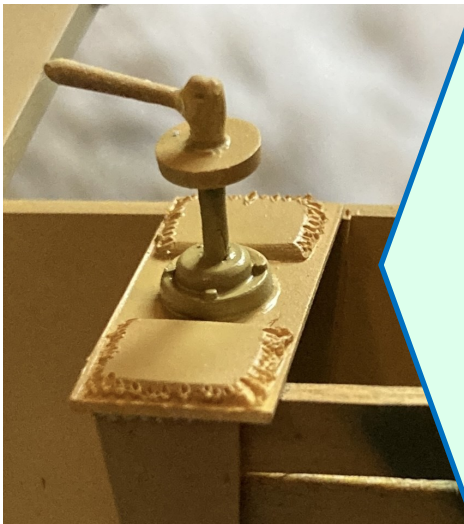
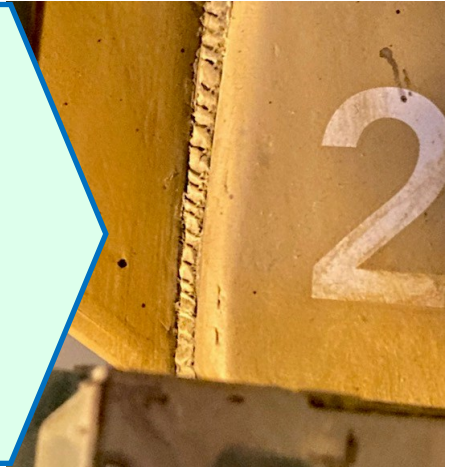
Simple fix: Weld marks.

Presented here are some ideas on adding or improving weld marks on your models, as with any technique practice will be beneficial and some of these ideas suit bigger scales. All are relatively easy to do and apart from using the decaling method, I have tried them all. If you have a method not covered here, let me know about it. - Ed

Perhaps the simplest method but not the easiest to get consistent results from, using epoxy putty to create weld beads.

If the weld line is present it will need removing and using a scoring tool (panel liner) a groove traced into the plastic into which a thin rolled up line of putty such as Milliput can be inserted. Once in place the bead can be sculpted with a suitable tool, in the case of the line to the right, a chisel point on a pencil.

The drawback is ensuring the epoxy putty bead is uniform in thickness, it is more difficult to roll a thin consistent sausage of Milliput and lay it into a groove, before then working the putty. But it is quicker to engrave your bead marks using a tool into soft putty than the method below.

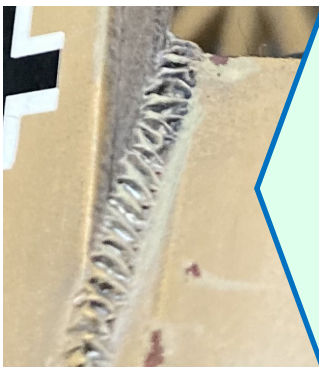


A slower method but better for uniform results is using a heat tool such as a Pyro gravure into plastic strip. Similar to a soldering iron with a fine brass tip (this is the heated electrical element) and normally of a fixed temperature for use on plastic. Variable heat versions are available that can also be used to burn artwork into wood or leather but working with plastic needs less heat. In lieu of a pyro gravure a pin held in a wine bottle cork can be heated over a flame and used to inscribe plastic in the same way. This is a laborious operation as the pin quickly loses its heat.

As above, remove existing welds and if needed score a line into which plastirod or stretched sprue is inserted and glued. Once secure the hot tool can be drawn over the rod, inscribing the plastic to simulate the weld bead. If the incisions have too rough an edge, brushing over with liquid cement will round the bead off.



Left: the grey segments are stretched sprue glued then incised with the heated nip of a pyro gravure. Right: The heated tip of the tool, but a pin or needle heated over a flame can work too. If adding welds to 1/72 or 1/76 armour the pyro gravure tip may be too large and a pin superior. A non heat technique suitable for small scale weld lines uses finer stretched sprue that is softened with liquid cement then incised with a fine Xacto blade.



While risking a touch of the 'Verlinden' look, adding depth with a wash then a dry brush over the bead's ridges really highlights the extra modelling work.

Re-look at the coarse Russian welding on the T-80 on page 8, using silver for the drybrushing would give a matching look.

Also available to simulate weld lines, decals and photo etched strips. The decals are like the similar rivet sets and applied to plastic before being over painted. The etch will need gluing. Both are more 2 dimensional.





HORNBY HOBBIES

MODEL SHOP OF THE YEAR
AWARDS 2025



Congratulations to our tame model shop proprietor Clive 'Oz' Osbaldeston. Hornby's country wide search for 'the best model shop of the year' ran over a number of months right into 2025 and from a field of hundreds and 5049 individual votes, Hornby named Salisbury Model Centre as number one! In their words;

With a strong sense of community, an unwavering passion for the hobby, and exciting plans for the future, Salisbury Model Centre embodies the very best of what a model shop can be. Congratulations to Oz and his team on this well-earned recognition. '

What the judges had to say:

"Salisbury Model Centre's commitment to, and support of, Models for Heroes and the mental health benefits of hobbies and model making was great to see." Petra Bones, The Scouts

"Clive 'Oz' has a great story, a love of the industry and passion for all things military, taking on an existing business and putting his own spin on it has to be applauded." Paul Reader, Toymaster



Heller Citroen revisted.

The last thing I expected when walking around Waterloo in London was to find a 15CV parked up. I took a few pics and asked Tony about his build of the same thing.-Ed

The Citroen Traction Avant is considered a stand out classic in automotive circles, popularising a number of technological innovations in the 1930's that were to become ubiquitous across the industry over the following decades. Additionally, it holds a special significance in Wiltshire where popular resident historian James Holland can be seen driving his personal example with its distinctive pastel blue and cream wheels.

Realising Heller had a 1:24 scale 15CV example in their range, it immediately jumped out as a build subject, especially as I had snapped Holland's car at the Waitrose Shell Petrol Station earlier that winter.

Richard C had already embarked on a recreation of Holland's personal car, so I thought the example on display at Shuttleworth would make a cool comparison build. However, my photos of the Shuttleworth car showed there were too many differences for a simple build.

This led me down the avenue of other "famous" examples of the Traction Avant, and ultimately to the Tintin series, in which Hergé incorporated a large number of contemporary vehicles, including the Traction Avant. Somehow the build morphed into a cartoon diorama of a scene from "The Calculus Affair", complete with cartoon characters in the car and speech bubble, in a recreation of the exploding house panel. The diorama and characters were hand drawn and painted with a combination of watercolours, acrylics and ink on paper, card and foam. The Citroen itself was airbrushed in various acrylics.



The completed diorama featured in the Salisbury Model Centre window and Facebook posts, where it was spotted by Heller and ultimately found a new home for a young Tintin fan. Maybe I'll build myself another sometime.



Tony Levitt



EVENTS CALENDAR



March	
4th	Space and Sci Fi Theme night.
18th	Talk by Paul Capon CW. Projector required.
April	
1st	Club Kit sales. Internal kit swap in advance of June show. Bring Cash.
3rd	Thursday night R A Museum visit. New Date!
12th	Poole Vikings show
15th	Swede Night; Anything Swedish with slideshow of Sweden's Air museums by Colin
May	
6th	80th anniversary VE Day. Any model from Europe 1945.
20th	Annual Memorial Shield Competition and Model Show briefing.
31st	IPMS SALISBURY Show—Laverstock.
June	
3rd	Model Show debrief.
17th	French night. Anything French (no snails?)
July	
1st	Open modelling night; bring along some WIP and spend a couple of hours actually modelling.
6th	Romsey Model Show
15th	80th Anniversary VJ Day. Any Pacific theatre model.
August	
5th	Club Summer BBQ or Pizza night.
19th	The Fleet Air Arm. Talk by Nick W.
September	
2nd	Chairmans quiz.
16th	200 years of rail. Any railway related models.
27th	BDAC model show
October	
7th	Final presentation and voting for 2025 Group Build.
21st	AGM
November	
4th	Telford preparation.
7th	7/8/9th IPMS Scale Model World Telford.
18th	Telford debrief and reveal of purchases, wins and WIPs.
December	
2nd	Night at the model shop & Club Dinner . Venue TBC
16th	In house club show, Mince pies.



Top right: Nick's Sea Vampire from Airfix. And right, more 'Adventures of Tintin' from Tony Levit with a 1/24 Jeep conversion.

Chairman - Colin W: modelclub@ipmssalisbury.co.uk
 Branch Secretary - Tony L : secretary@ipmssalisbury.co.uk
 Show Organiser- Colin W co-ordinating.
 Newsletter - Sibo: newsletter@ipmssalisbury.co.uk
 Website Custodian - Richard C: webmaster@ipmssalisbury.co.uk

Articles and news are always welcome for inclusion in the club newsletter. Views and information thus expressed are solely those of the author and will only be printed if a name is attached.

Articles and observations do not necessarily represent the views of the editor or the club as a whole but as long as not offensive will be published though the editor has final discretion.

Email: newsletter@ipmssalisbury.co.uk with questions, concerns or content. Thanks the Editor

Your Club - Richard Hooker

1. How did you start off modelling and what keeps you at it? I first got into the hobby back in around 1984. I was 8 at the time and my family had relocated back to the North East after a few years living in the Persian Gulf.

The first model I remember doing was a Matchbox B25 Mitchell and mainly did WW2 multi engine planes depending on how much pocket money I had, and always 1/72 scale. As with most people, I took a break from the hobby in my late teens when I discovered beer and women but restarted slowly around 10 years ago when I was going through some challenges at home. I picked up a gift set from a shop in London and got hooked again (and also helped me when I quit smoking!).



2. Do you have a particular modelling interest?

For years I stuck to 1/72 or 1/76 scale but nowadays I am branching out into larger scale especially Tanks. If the subject interests me then I will try and get it. I am particularly excited about the Revell reissue of the old Matchbox Surtees F1 car in 2025. I do not think there is anything I would not build.

3. What has been a favourite build and why? My favourite build (so far) was a Revell Jaguar E type in 1/24 scale. It was a lot more complex to what I was used to and spent a lot longer on it than I would have done when I first started. Was pleased with the finished product but in hindsight I should have spent even longer on it. I also enjoyed doing the diorama I did for the group build as it was my 1st ever stab at one. I have more in the planning stages but need to sort more storage space.

4. What is your day job and does modelling help switch off from work?

My day job is a Civil Servant based in London, so "enjoy" a long commute to the office. Most weeks I am limited to weekend modelling but any time I do get, it does clear the head.

5. How long have you been a club member?

I joined the club in October/November 2023.

6. What are you currently working on? I have a number of builds on the work-bench including an Airfix ME110 in 1/72, an Airfix Cromwell in 1/35. I have loads in the planning stages including a Where Eagles Dare diorama.

Thank you Richard for introducing yourself to the club - Ed.



Comms Check

The club is a source you should be using: Kits you don't want anymore or kits you are desperately are looking for. A magazine article or missing decals, even to ask a random question or get it off your chest. All can be done through the newsletter and will be bounced back and forth here. Be brief and to the point. Send your Requests, Answers, Offers and Rants to :

newsletter@ipmssalisbury.co.uk

Miniature Marvels - The 1/72nd Scale Experience

Readers might recall a year or so ago a small article and a link provided by one of the Chairman's modelling friends from New Zealand who was gradually succumbing to Parkinson's disease. Sadly but inevitably Mark has moved on a bit and he can not model as he could before. He has not been idle though and turned his garage into a museum dedicated to 1/72 scale. He has also created a web site and gallery to support his idea, a collection of 1/72 aircraft and a few AFV that celebrates his modelling life and interest in aviation as well as generating via donations from visitors, funds to combat Parkinson's disease.

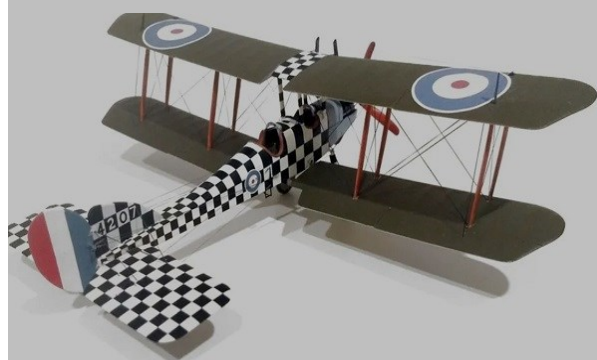
In the text below are extracts from Mark. What he has done is impressive and in some way a luxury I think many of us would like; our own modelling collection formally displayed and able to out live our own mortal stint at the workbench of life. Yet it is a cruel irony that it's the shadow of a disease that limits Mark's model making that contributed to this display coming to be. I hope the chairman is able to let Mark know how impressive we think his collection is and that it gives him as much pleasure in this form as it did when making each model.



A mental health crisis in 1997 led Mark to revive his childhood hobby of scale modelling and this became a passion that enriched his life thereafter. But a 2013 Parkinson's diagnosis meant his time remaining for scale modelling was drastically reduced. Determined that his model collection and knowledge should benefit others, Mark established the Miniature Marvels gallery to raise funds for research of neurological conditions like Parkinson's and Multiple Sclerosis (the latter afflicts his mother), and to promote scale modelling to all ages. Admission is free, with donations to the Neurological Foundation encouraged.

Constant Scale of 1:72 - - -

A growing list of over 440 exhibits to a constant scale, allows for interesting comparisons of diverse subjects, with 6 feet in real life equal to 1 inch on the model or 1m = 14mm.



By the age of 64, Mark realized he needed to transform his ideas for a charity model gallery into reality before he became too disabled to tackle the job of converting an old, dingy basement garage into a presentable and welcoming space, the pictures below show he has.



Above: Pictures of Mark's display, more at [Scale Model Gallery Overview](#)

Comms Check cont' SO MUCH (for) RESEARCH!

Experimental Mi-24B with Fenestron Tail Rotor



142 4 Share

+ Add a comment

Sort by: Best Search Comments

Bolter_NL • 3y ago •

Looks like a poor Photoshop, if I'm wrong I'd like to have details.

6 Reply Award Share

Looselipssinkships93 OP • 3y ago •

its a real picture, in 1975 they installed one on a Mi-24A but found that the modification proved not effective on such a large helicopter, hence why only one was modified

8 Reply Award Share

bob_the_impala • 3y ago •

Top 1% Poster

In 1975, one was fitted with an enclosed "fenestron" tail rotor, conceptually similar to that used on some European helicopters like the Aerospatiale Dauphin, but this modification did not prove effective.

Source

Also [listed and depicted here](#), also [here](#).

4 Reply Award Share

AlfaFoxAlfa • 3y ago •

Fake.

0 Reply Award Share

Forums can be a focal point for answers from knowledgeable people but in general anything after the first Six answers has little value. It pays to spot reliable contributors whose post with authority.

During the club in house display in December 2024 one common remark from all those displaying was how much time was spent on research and how much importance, not to mention enjoyment came from delving into books and the internet to gain knowledge on whatever it was being built at the time.

Extra information and reliable sources are important, they give confidence when embarking on a specific build, allow challenges by those who are without knowledge (or just plain ignorant and like to deride what they see) to be answered. Sometimes research can be the inspiration itself to a new project. At the very least it can be just a way to confirm that part 'A' really did fit that way round or was present during the 'OggaBogga Campaign'.

The internet has allowed a wider range of sources to be looked through and quickly brings returns to an enquiry, certainly easier than thumbing through books in the hope of turning up a picture from 400 pages. But books have one advantage, they are a lot harder to corrupt!

I have returned to searching for information on a build I started in 2021, one picture can no longer be found, though in fairness I can't recall what string of words led me to it in the first place. But fresh new pictures are also present. Where were they in 2021? Archives are always being found, and newly found pictures uploaded but worryingly also uploaded with no check on provenance, the equivalent to 'fake news'.

This is not always done to hoodwink, a recent trend is to colourise WWI and II Black and White photos. AI makes it easier and quicker. While an expert may be able to spend a week on 1 picture and use his own references to make a good attempt, once AI is left to it, a more general colourisation pattern takes place and can be more misleading than the original B&W picture.

The Pictures of 12 SS HJ Pz Division below show the scope for error.



Both colourisation of the left hand young soldier are feasible, autumn or summer cam schemes, but this choice has been applied to all 3 soldiers when a closer look at the middle figure reveals a different camouflage material that in reality had less choices of colour to be finished in so should be totally different to his comrades, something I think is easier to see in the B&W original.

It feels like research has become a lot harder, certainly more time consuming, as search strings return more and more 'junk'. This is also likely to get worse. Currently if you 'Google' a request to find pictures and info about '1940 RAF Spitcane in Iceland' the pages will return links to pages which already exist; with the current highest number of previous clicks or views. If that page is fake, it won't know, and worse, the more people who click on it to call out it's fakery, the more registered clicks will push up it's ranking.

New AI tech will possible make sifting even harder as it doesn't just sort and return hits in line with your search string but draws a net over a range of sources to compile an answer for you that may not indicate where the original sources have come from and what weight it has given during it's compilation exercise. In effect 60% of an AI answer could be drawn from a fake source and 40% from correct, but that does not result in a correct final result. It's an informational equivalent of a AI picture where 5 fingers are generated, but no thumb.

Consulting with real enthusiasts is the key, but even forums have issues. Not everyone who posts even reads the thread as the real Mi-24 picture above shows. Even in the face of linked



I really need the above picture to be real, but it's a fakeI think (?)

SO MUCH (for) RESEARCH! Cont'



evidence clearly showing that the fenestron was actually fitted to an early Hind airframe a contributor writes 'fake'. So even if contributors don't read the thread, you should!

Proliferation of incorrect information is one thing, deliberate hoaxes are another. The tech available for editing photographs is amazing but that makes putting together dubious picture easy. It is fun photo-shopping, but unless captioned to reflect the false nature it can create mythical prototypes or undiscovered revelations from WWII. Deciding if the vehicle is real can be very difficult. Finding the original photo component parts is usually the best way to deduce what is fake or not. The captured T-34 with 88mm gun mounted is well known and has spawned a number of kit bashed models as well as artworks online, but as the pictures alongside show the 88mm T-34 doesn't hail from a German factory, but clever editing instead. The background foliage and figure placement are exactly the same in the more conventional T-34 below.

After all that, one aspect that is forgivable is the art of photographing a model so that it appears to be real.

After all the time and effort we modellers put in, nothing is as rewarding as when its mistaken for the real thing. I got a kick out of leaving the picture right (a sci-fi kit bash) as my screensaver during AFV lectures at Warminster and hearing the students debate what it was.

**Talking of fake, lines 16 and 17 of the Resolutions table, pg3 are fibs.*



"its the most wonderful time of the year"

No, not Christmas this time, but that small segment of time after the main event and just before New Year's eve, when for a modeller we get a little bit of peace. That can result in some modelling, some perusing and purchasing or if you have been lucky, spending time looking through any model related gifts you might have received.

Phill had a busy lead up to Christmas which prevented him visiting the club or taking part in last December's Flashmod, but he was able to get building once the 25th was out the way. Three 1/48 GR1 Tornados started to eventually be finished in Gulf War, Tiger Meet and test airframe schemes. Also indulging in 1/48 aircraft building Nick W prepared his FAA version of the Vampire using the downtime to mask up the body.

Oz received a large 1/35 kit, Das Werk's newly released Cid-27 Passenger Carriage 'Donnersbuchse' as a Christmas present and set to straight away on tackling it. Lets hope that good finish (modelling wise) to 2024 can be harnessed for 2025. For me, rather than starting any new projects my resolution is to complete some of the part built, started models that have become shelf queens. Paul Capon has taken the same thought and completed his Russian resin armoured car during the last days of December as well as opening a box of unfinished builds to work on.

