

IPMS MAR-APR 26 SALISBURY

MOTHER'S DAY & APRIL FOOLS

PIG

of a kit, Richard Clarke's KFS FV 1611
Humber Pig in 1/24 scale built inside.
His model appears twice below in
this Internal Security collage by Sibö
with more on this vehicle type inside.

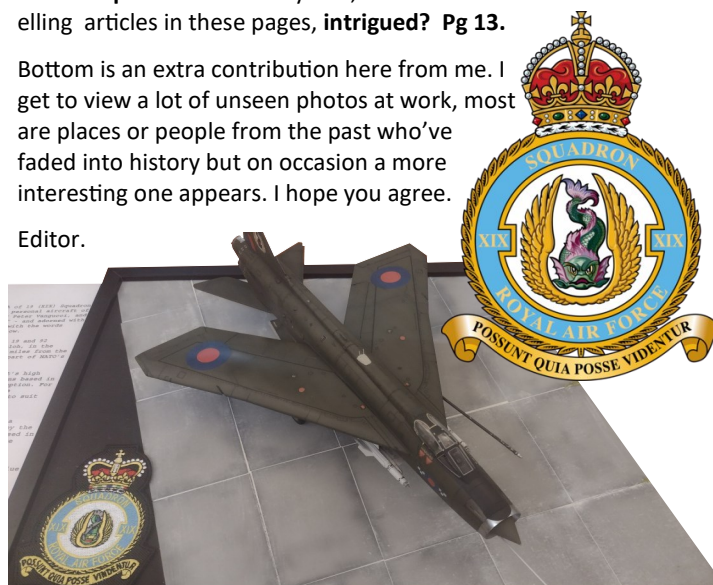
IPMS SALISBURY



Happy Easter and welcome to the latest IPMS Salisbury newsletter that can be enjoyed between mouth-fuls of chocolate egg, hot cross buns and maybe even a bit of model making. There's not a lot for me to preface with this edition as I have been absent, but I'm glad to say I have been kept up to date with club activity and to thank those who sent me photos and words reporting on the nights I missed. I'm pleased to have **Mothers' day** articles to tie in with March 15th and for **April 1st** a Fools day one, both a bit different to other modelling articles in these pages, **intrigued?** Pg 13.

Bottom is an extra contribution here from me. I get to view a lot of unseen photos at work, most are places or people from the past who've faded into history but on occasion a more interesting one appears. I hope you agree.

Editor.



I was sent a bundle of photos from German night and some text too so feel able to devote space to what was the first club night in March. The bulk appear over leaf but represent less than a third of what was on show. One model deserves a little more explanation as it didn't display any German markings or obvious link to combat with Germany.

Nick's Lightning pictured above was linked in a more geographic way as in 1965 19 and 92 Squadrons, both flying F.2 lightnings (then later, the longer ranged F.2A variant) were forward based at RAF Gutersloh in Germany, making up part of NATO's 2nd Allied Tactical Airforce. Unlike the Lightnings based elsewhere that conducted high altitude interception, these aircraft operated at low level and gained the green topside colour scheme. Nick has finished his 1/48 Airfix kit in 19 Sqn markings including the tail badge. The scale covered fish between the wings of the Sqn badge is actually a dolphin despite it's appearance and leads to 19 Sqn's nick name 'The Dolphins'.



Railway gun 14 Inch, named H.M.G Taffy at Elswick Works on 18th August 1918 bedecked with Artillery men who would all depart to France via Train ferry 1 week later. Sir W . G Armstrong Whitworth & Co Ltd.

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

Reviews: Chris Southwood uses AK water Gel and Water effects.

Articles: Richard C, Dave B, Don and Sibbo all contribute to this issue's Pig and a B-24 in RAF service from Dave B.

Weather report: Weathering reference and fix.

Events calendar: Club nights. In house and external shows and events.

Grail Kit: The theme is continued by Tony Levitt

Comms check: Use the newsletter to ask questions, swap info, borrow or buy from each other. Odds and ends relating to the hobby here with a Mothers' day and April fools Special.



**MODELS
FOR
HEROES**

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

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



A handful of the varied German themed models shown on 3rd March.

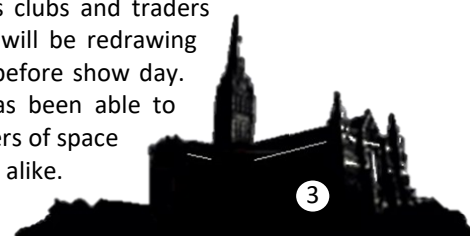


'A cracking night ' is how the Chairman summed up the German theme, not least due to the immense number of models on display that night. Only a fraction appear here courtesy of Colin and Nick, it would be impossible to have them all included. Dave Berriman's German bombers all had local links and alongside were the Spitfires which shot them down. Phill managed to complete his complex V2 Engine and Chris had an experimental German tank influenced by the T34 but reworked in reality to become the Panther. Richard Lane had reams of small scale models covering WW1 biplanes, Modern German AFV and WW2 Fighters. Figure busts appeared as well as the iconic VW Van. But aircraft and armour took the lions share of table space with dioramas as well as stand alone pieces for the AFV's and a host of aircraft from WW1 to modern eras. Mick even had an aeroplane diorama showing a prang between a VW bus and an aircraft's underwing drop tank based on real photographs. I'm gutted to have missed it especially as I'd suggested the theme.

Apologies for the scant call out of names but it would be easier to say who didn't have a model on display. But this is not a name and shame publication so rest easy if you didn't have anything befitting the theme. The next theme night is in May and focuses on Aisa so a totally different field of schemes, models and stories to choose from.



On the 10th a number of the club met at the Duck Inn to work through more of the detail needed for the Summer show. Some mas-saging of the layout is needed as clubs and traders plead to attend, Tony L has and will be redrawing the floor plan a few more times before show day. But by reworking the plan he has been able to squeeze in a few more useful meters of space that will please visitors and traders alike.





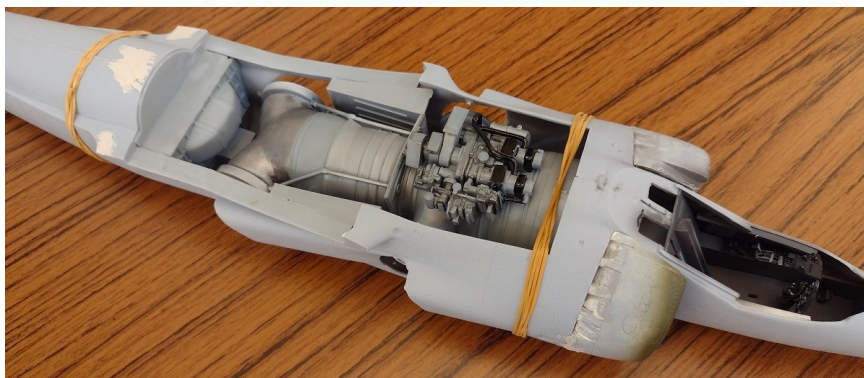
The planned event for club night on the 17th was beaten by technical issues but it is hoped that the presentation on the re-opened 'Wardrobe', the Rifles (Nee RGBW) museum in Salisbury can happen again. The take away though from the rep was entry is now free, so go along and have a look.

With the improved weather a bigger number of members appeared. It was nice to see Brian Rose and son joining new members Rauri, Justin, Rob and Paul as

well as the old and bold. Perhaps due to the expectation of sitting through a slide show there were less models on show but Nick had his just finished Wellington on display, the paint must have barely dried, Mick brought along a couple of WIPs, Bob had another colourful bust, Paul a delicate looking artillery piece and Colin a completed 1/48 twin seat Harrier T4 with a set of 1/24 fuselage parts too. I didn't manage to get the reason but maybe this is a hint on what the Chairman is planning for his 'Big Model'.

The same kit was present at the first club meeting in April, a free building night where members could work on a kit accompanied by banter. There was a number of projects on the go as well as Colin's big Airfix Harrier.

Thanks to Tony L and Colin W a few pictures of the night appear here and over page.



The hall saw a small turnout but immensely fun evening on Tuesday with 14 modellers building a variety of kits.

2 completed models appeared from Bob of Japanese Aircraft, the same air-frame (reporting name 'Tony') with different engines, one a DB601 and one with a radial engine. Bob also had a couple of painted busts.

Bob was mobile after his hip op, allowing him to run a mini

'How to' session on panel lines which Tony and Andy

really enjoyed. An excellent Heinkel He

-178 from Tony H was on display (see

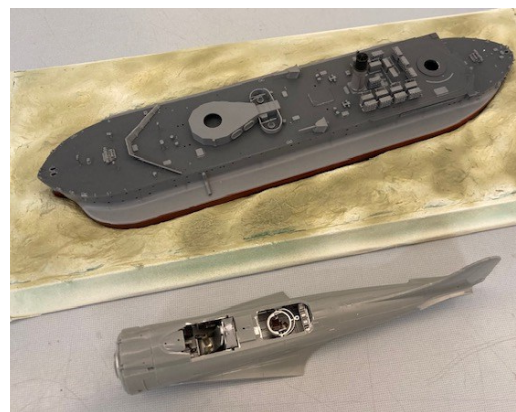
over) and a Sea king 'Junglie' HC4 in

a winterised scheme from the

Club Chairman.



Don Bartlett working on plastic.



Above: WIPs by Mick Ellis. Left: Commitment to 'Big Model' night by Nick. A lot of extra market packages alongside the 1/32 Revell kit. Below: Spitfire in an Indian Airforce scheme by Chris S.



Above: Vickers Wellington GR Mk VIII by Airfix, modelled by Nick. Left: Harrier T4 VCCA used to test landing systems intended for the US F-35 to equip the Royal Navy.



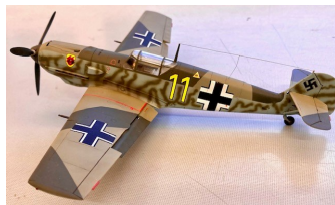


Before the final night of May there was another small gathering at the Duck Inn for show discussion and final checks. By the time you read this there will be one month remaining and one more meeting to go (12th May at The Duck Inn, all welcome).

The 21st was sunny so numbers a little low at the hall as many were enjoying an evening in the garden. The items on sale revealed the sellers interests, Rauri had 1/48 US jets and German fighters, Bob old WWI aircraft and Sibo 1/35 armour and SPG kits. Some sales were made. Paul C picked up a few early war armour kits, and a few people looked at Bob's 1911 Avro Triplane before Rob snapped it up.



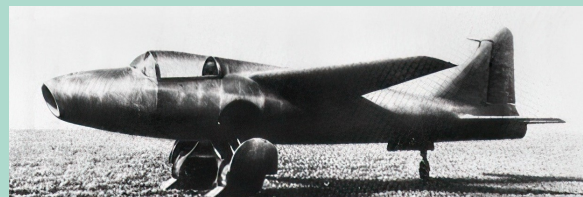
We had a new attendee too, Jamie brought along a WIP, a bright red Airfix Viggen that she was re-scribing. The Mosquito below shows that her work is likely to be impressive. Due to members having to lug in boxes of kits to sell the number of WIP was low. As well as the Viggen, Chris and Toz had a some 1/35 tanks and Sibo a large diorama still some way from completion. Rauri brought in a completed Me109 made from the Hasegawa kit.



He 178 Model by Tony Hawkins



The Heinkel He 178, a German experimental aircraft, was the world's first aircraft to fly using thrust from a turbojet engine. On 27th August 1939 the He 178 V1 (the first prototype), performed its maiden flight, flown by test pilot Erich Warsitz. This flight only lasted for six minutes but had been preceded by a short hop by the same aircraft three days before. Built around a gas turbine engine designed by Hans von Ohain, a young German engineer and patented in 1935, Heinkel built an airframe around the engine to investigate high speed flight. The He 178 was not overly successful as a design, yet the flaws helped inform future German jet development so it was important in the evolution of jet aircraft design to some degree. A metal and wood airframe contained the engine behind an intake mounted at the front of the aircraft. While this would become the norm in many post war jets it was decided that the high amount of servicing these pioneering jets required meant an underwing position was preferred to simplify access for maintenance and was adopted on the He 280 as well as over body for the He 162.



Middle: He 178 memorial plaque at Marienehe airfield recognising the first flight.
Bottom: 1935 Photograph of the prototype.

Top: Model He 178 by Tony Hawkins

Review: An introduction to AK Interactive water effects

Avast, ye Seadogs! Having recently gotten myself into a project involving a few ships (I keep telling myself it is only a 'few' anyway; the Pedestal convoy had over 30 ships involved) I realised relatively early on that constantly handling the ships was greatly increasing the chances of them being damaged. I made the decision to base all the ships, not only for presentation but also their own safety. To build these bases I decided to use AK Interactives "Water Gel, North Atlantic" and "Water Effects", available at places one finds their regular AK Interactive goods. My knowledge is derived from the YouTube tutorial by AK on these products, presented here with my additional observations. The models being based are my four merchant ships which are all 1/1200 scale 3D print models.



I started off with the base; given their size I wanted to get 4 ships onto a base together, helping to save space. This base itself is stained beech timber. To provide more variations in colour AK recommends painting a seascape as a base for applying the effects. For this I blended various shades of Watercolours on a pre-measured and cut piece of watercolour paper, to help with absorption and add texture. Something I forgot to do on this occasion, but which does help, is to fix the watercolour paper to a thin piece of foamboard, this will keep the paper flat once the paint dries. Also the colours I have used ended up with (as we will see later) a very light blue water effect. Using darker colours on the watercolours will help at this stage as the product is slightly transparent. I need to check though.



Once the base paint is dry the next move should be to lay out anything you want 'in' the water, ships, jetties/docks etc and outline them with a pencil; you do not want the water effect to be 'under' the ship due to an uneven surface prevent the models sitting level. Now apply the Water Gel; I believe the gel to essentially be a PVA-like substance with pigment added for colour and maybe some sort of agent for quicker setting speed. When this dries the thicker the application, the darker the colour (the thinner the application the more you can see 'through' it), if you need a darker colour another coat can be added later. I applied this with an old raggedy brush, one I will not mind losing to a gluey substance (though the product does dissolve nicely in water) and while you apply the gel you can use the brush to agitate the surface to create a more natural watery/textured surface. You can also use an empty airbrush to blow the water into patterns, but a brush is just as good. The gel has a partly self-levelling effect so about 10-20 minutes after application take the brush back to it and remould the surface if required (if adding more layers repeat the process),

Once left to cure for 24 hours the next stage is adding the ships or other items into the seascape, simply superglue these into place. Once this sets, build up more of the gel with a finer brush or tool against the side of the items to fill gaps. Further detailing should also be added; bow waves, wakes and other eddies and swells which settled in the drying process. Allow to dry again for 24 hours and check to ensure whatever items you have added are properly set into the 'water' and look natural.



We can now shelve the gel and pick up our "Water Effects". Like the Gel, this is a PVA type substance but this time with NO pigment but instead mixed with something like mirco-balloons to provide texture. Paint this onto the tops of waves, wakes, bow waves and anywhere where you want a 'foamy' texture or where you will want wave 'peaks'. Again leave each coat to dry for a few hours, but be aware; this will dry clear... however it will have a texture and will be worth the effort later. On the final coat mix in some white/light grey/off white acrylic to your liking. Once this is mixed in paint over the top of the "Effects" layers similar to a highlight, once this combined paint/effect layer dries it give the effect of breaking water. Just be careful not to apply too much, it is easier to add than to takeaway!

We have finished! Hopefully your water will be the right colour and a convincing semi-translucent seascape will surround your mighty vessels! Take to the High Seas!

Chris
Southwood.



Contributions from Richard Clarke (1/24) Don Bartlett (1/40) and Sibo (Royal Ulster Constabulary) all inspired by a vehicle affectionately known as the 'Pig' mean we're down in the pigsty for the next 2 pages...

We are in the PIG-sty!

KFS 1/24 PIG

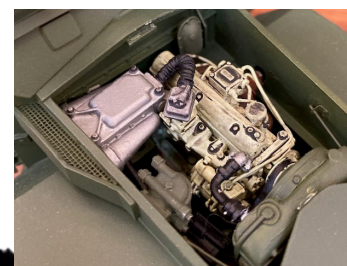


This heavy weight appeared at club nights way back in 2018 under construction by Richard C, a resin kit from KFS (Kit Form Services) who at that time were wrapping up their business which resulted in a few members snapping up models expected to disappear. Since then KFS has reappeared under new ownership, and Richard has not only restarted the build but at the end of 2025 finished this 1/24 model.

While known simply as a Humber Pig, KFS offer the Mk2 version of which the correct designation is FV1611 a significant modification of the FV1601 four wheel drive 1-ton payload truck built by Rootes to create a protected vehicle. This armoured version was issued to the Army and used in Germany (FV1609) but once replaced in service many were put in storage only to be given a new lease of

life. Modified to be fully protected with full armoured roofs, these saw notable service supporting RUC and Army units in internal security (IS) work in Northern Ireland (NI) in what has become known as 'the troubles' (officially Op Banner). Many variants were seen but the model Richard has made is in its basic Army form fitted with tubular bars to remove barricades and side bins removed to reduce surfaces that IEDs could be attached to. This is an authentic model but note KFS has based it on a restored vehicle in private ownership and the VRN is for that vehicle. (Other VRNs are included in the kit, Richard chose to model the restored vehicle, the kit and real Pig have all the NI specific alterations so can be considered accurate).

The kit is presented well with 81 resin parts, Richard noted that most of the plugs had been removed leaving less clean up to be done. The instructions were difficult to interpret, a common issue in resin kits though I spoke to the new owners in 2025 at Key Model World and they reported redoing the instructions on the kits being released under new ownership. Clear sheet was provided for glazing and Nickle fret to be used for seat belts and buckles in the crew and drivers area. 2 large sheets of Brass PE are included. The instructions suggest adding a clear green tint to the glass ports, this will accurately reflect the bullet resistant glass. The glass is clear but made up of so many layers that it takes on a darker blue/green tone. The crew compartment is well done including the spill liner added to IS vehicles, as is the driver and commanders area. No personal crew stowage is included or items that a NI vehicle would carry as standard. The engine is fully modelled and visible when bonnet is removed. There is scope for extra detailing if you know your engines, though what is provided is comprehensive. Richard airbrushed the model in Vallejo Bronze Green. The pictures below show what a nice kit it is and what Richard has done with the contents, also included are pictures of the real thing, in aged condition admittedly. In 2025 the listed price was £240.00. Richard was lucky to get it when he did.



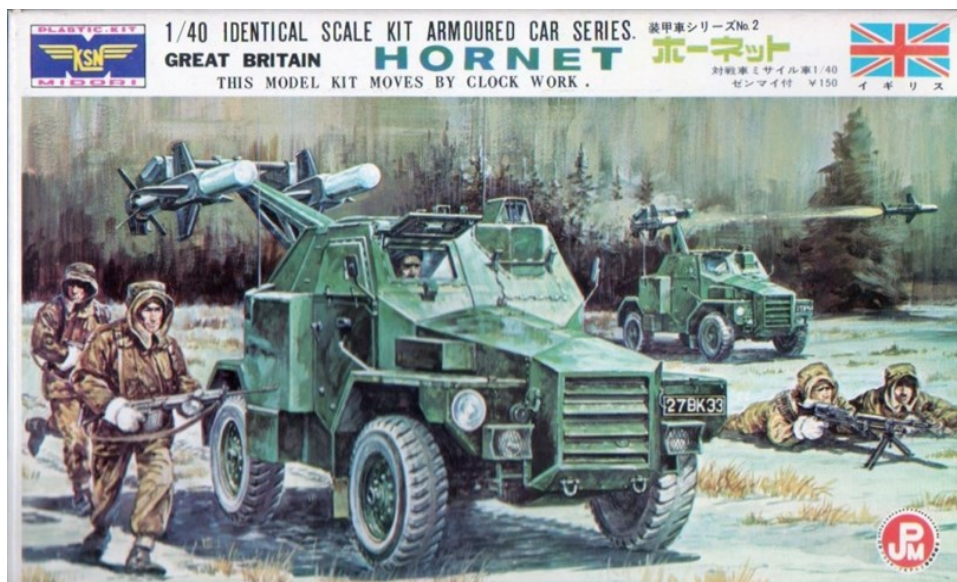
As of the early '90s the PIG was no longer in service, but it was rare to see them on patrol duties from the late '80s though anecdotally we had one at the border crossing in Strabane that was driven out at midnight to block the road till 0500hrs each day into the mid 90's. I doubt it would have passed an MOT but it served its purpose.- Ed

Midori 1/40 Humber Hornet Malkara

Richard's 1/24th scale Humber 'Pig' APC from Kit Form Services prompted me to think about the connected (ie same family of Humber vehicles) 1/40th model of the Humber Hornet Malkara from Japanese company Midori that I built a few years ago and hawked around several model shows.

The FV1620 Hornet Malkara was a 4x4 wire guided Anti-Tank Guided Weapon (ATGW) carrier launcher that carried the most powerful ATGW missile of its day capable of knocking out any tank then in service. An Australian/UK joint development, the Malkara missile carried a 57lb (26kg) HESH warhead out to a maximum operational range of 4,300yds (4,000m) for the Mk2 missile. In British service (early 60s to mid 70s) the Hornet Malkara gave the Airborne Forces a capable anti-tank weapon, often a deficiency in airborne operations.

The Midori offering was not only a runner by virtue of its powerful clockwork motor, but the missiles were capable of being fired. The wheels were shod in rubber and were run-flats! OK, the tyres followed the Dinky practice of soft rubber tyres for which time is not particularly kind, although so far my model is fine. Unsurprisingly, the kit is typical of its age being released in 1969. Although essentially a model toy it was fun to make as I could actually build it out of the box. In addition to a second Midori Hornet kit (one for the grandchildren perhaps!), I have a 1/35th Accurate Armour Hornet Malkara offering in the stash as well as a 1/24th KFS Pig for possible conversion – it must be because its British and quirky that I like this particular vehicle so much.



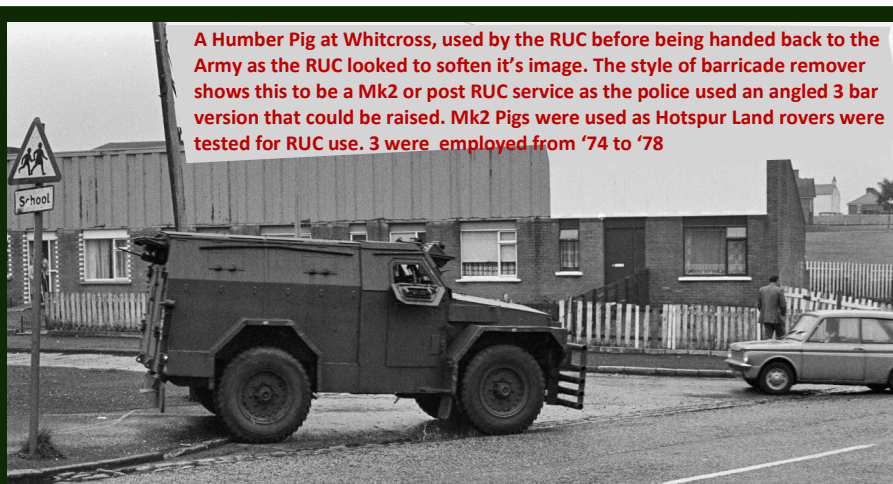
Below: The FV1601 series lorry.



Above: The FV1609 armoured, but open topped. In use with British Army in Germany.

RUC Service

The Pig's recognisable form started out far more curvaceous as the FV1601, a military lorry of a post war appearance. During the 50's the British Army was in the process of being equipped with the Saracen as an armoured troop carrier, but it was taking longer than desired due to complexity and cost. As an interim measure the Army looked to the Humber FV1601s retained in storage and strengthened the chassis, added an armoured cab and body sides but left the roof open with canvas protection from the elements but little else, not even seats. This was the FV1609. As the situation in Northern Ireland deteriorated the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) found their own vehicles unsuited to the escalating violence so leased from the Army 10x FV1609 painting them RUC grey. It was soon realised that the soft top crew area left occupants vulnerable to attack from grenades or pipe bombs thrown even if rural patrols made good use of the vehicle with the tilt removed. In 1959 the British Army was also working on a fully armoured body for the FV1609. One Army full armoured type (now FV1611) was sent to NI and evaluated. Using the patterns applied to the Army vehicle the Belfast Tool and Gauge Co modified the 10 existing RUC vehicles and added refinements of their own such as bench seats, Visor flaps and a spall liner to the floor to protect against under vehicle explosions. These Mk I served the RUC from 1961 to 1970 before politics saw them become Army property again.



1/72 Consolidated Liberator BMkVI

W for Whisky of 70 Sqn RAF, Tortorella, Italy 1945 by Dave Berryman.



Likely a South African or Australian crewed B24 in this photo from WWII

Building an accurate scale model of this aircraft has always been one of my aims, as my father would have looked after the original as Senior SNCO Maintenance for 70 Squadron from late 1944 to September 1945. The unit was based in central Italy in support of the 8th Army and other Allied ground forces in-theatre, bombing axis targets to the north and across the Adriatic in Yugoslavia. The squadron also went on "NAAFI Runs" dropping compo rations and weapons to Yugoslav partisans.

The B-24 Liberator was one of the stars of WW2. It originated from a request by the US Army Air Corps to Consolidated for the building of B-17s. The Company wasn't impressed by the Boeing design, and said that they could build a far better bomber. The B-24 prototype took to the air within the year, in De-

cember 1939. It was to become one of the most successful and the most produced four-engine bomber of all time (18,118 being built) as well as being the most produced US aircraft of WW2.

My first attempt at building a model of one of my Dad's Liberators (the squadron's aircraft, of course, belonged to the ground crew – the aircrew only borrowed them to go flying!) was using the original Airfix Liberator of the 1960s. It wasn't actually a bad kit, but my model wasn't one of my best! With the release of a new-mould B-24 by Airfix a year or two ago, I decided to build one to my current capabilities. The kit is a pleasure to build, the Airfix designers having found clever ways to build up the interior and outer structures. The interior is well portrayed, and the gun turrets are a vast improvement on the earlier versions. As the ventral ball turret was deleted on most RAF Liberators, I did so on my model. The bomb bay has a full complement of 1,000 lb bombs and the flaps, as well as the bomb bay doors, are poseable.

The colour scheme was unusual for RAF aircraft. The aircraft would have originally been finished in the standard USAAF finish of the day, of olive drab with neutral grey under-surfaces. Under RAF ownership this would have remained unchanged for most of 70 Sqn's aircraft, except for a number that were selected to operate at night. Whisky was one of these, so was given matt black under-surfaces and red code, which gives it a rather distinctive air, I think.



Dave used Airfix's 2023 new tool B-24 H pictured above for his build (right) but previously had the older 1960s kit as the basis to model his father's aircraft the first time round. Be aware that Airfix re-released the older tooling in 2011 in the more modern red style box with art work by Adam Tooby and new decals for RAF SEAC so it is easy to purchase the 'wrong' tooling (below).



Weather report

A little fun with real world inspiration.



Here's one I can imagine Richard re-creating. This yellow US Halftrack is most likely a M3A1 so could be built in 1/16 (Andy's Hobby), 1/35 (Dragon), 1/48 (Gaso.Line and Bandai) 28mm (Warlord) and in 1/72 (Academy or Hasegawa). By starting with the M16 version 1/16 is catered for (Trumpeter), 1/35 (Tamiya) and 1/76 (Revell boxing of Matchbox). Other derivatives exist from 1/76 to 1/6 but will need the front roller exchanged to match this one. This



forlorn yellow one had a long employment as a French logging vehicle. The front bumper (under the tyre) has lead bars to counter the weight of the crane on the rear and to counter balance the lifted load. While the crane is now missing the rest of this relic sits in the UK awaiting some attention not to mention large amounts of cash and commitment. Any takers?

Y
E
L
L
O
W



Simple Fix : Blocked Revell Glue Dispensers!



I previously admitted to liking Revells Contacta Professional glue for many construction jobs but one thing that does annoy is how often the tube blocks on the small and large containers. I reported a method of clearing in a previous newsletter, by holding over a naked flame, but even that trick fails after repeated exposure to the flame and build up of soot. Noting 4 blocked but relatively full containers on my bench I decided to do something about it.

Decant the glue into a small glass jar (not plastic, certain plastics will be eaten by solvent). I then took a pipette and snipped of the tip so that the opening matched the end of a large hyper dermic needle (from the Vet) and rammed it into the opening. File the sharp tip flatter for safety. Once jammed on I wrapped a couple of layers of electrical insulation tape around the join. Exposing the tape to a flame caused it to tighten like heat shrink would. I now have a tube for the glue that can be 'blown through' to clear by squeezing the pipette bulb.



EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY 5th	Asia Night, Models with an Asian theme.	Theme night
12th	Final pre-show meeting at 'The Duck Inn' Lavertstock.	Show Committee, and all welcome.
19th	Annual Memorial Shield Competition and Model Show briefing.	All
30th	IPMS Salisbury Annual Model Show.	As tasked
JUN 2nd	Model Show debrief.	All
16th	Large Model Night. Big or Models bigger than the 'Normal Scale', Aircraft bigger than 1/48, Military Vehicles bigger than 1/35, Ships >1/350.	
JUL 7th	Open modelling night; bring some WIP and spend a couple of hours modelling.	All
12th	Helicopter Museum model show	Colin W, Mick Ellis
19th	Romsey Scale Model Show, Crosfield Hall, Romsey.	Bob, Chris Toz.
21st	Presentation 'Ost Munster Panzer Museum'.	Sibo presents.
26th	BDAC model show	Colin, Chris, Steve—D Berriman POC
Aug 2nd	IPMS Avon Scale Modelling and Wargaming Show	Julian, Don, Chris, Roisin.
4th	Club Summer BBQ / Pizza night.	All
18th	Conversions. Anything built not from the box. New decals don't count.	All
SEPT 1st	Quiz Night	All
12th/13th	Tank Museum Model Show, Bovington	Club attending each day.
15th	Open modelling night; bring some WIP and spend a couple of hours modelling.	All
OCT 6th	Final presentation and voting for 2026 Group Build	All
10th	REME Museum model show	Names to Branch Sec.
20th	AGM	Committee and Members.
NOV 3rd	Telford preparation	TBC
6.7.8th	IPMS Scale Model World Telford	TBC
17th	Telford debrief and goodies night	All
DEC 1st	Night at the model shop & Club Dinner	TBC
15th	Individual Table Model Shows & Mince Pies night. Inc under table sales.	All

Parachute Squadron RAC had their Hornets in matt Olive Drab paint liberally sprayed with disruptive black and devoid of any unit or formation badges.- www.emlra.org



GRAIL KIT

What could be more appropriate than writing about the Holy Grail over the Easter weekend, surely an ideal time for a little romantic fiction.

For my Holy Grail Tail, I have three offerings for you, because everyone loves a sequel and a trilogy always beats a duology.

First up I offer you the 800bhp Lola T93/00 CART IndyCar, famously driven by Nigel Mansell to the 1993 IndyCar championship. It looks fast stood still and would be a great kit to add to the stash. I only got to see the racing on the TV, not having the funds to travel that far back then, but I was fortunate enough to see it running at the Goodwood FOS in 2008. There's an old Tamiya kit on eBay, claiming to be from 1991. I'll wait for the re-issue thanks.

Secondly I suggest Michelle Mouton's 500bhp Group B Audi Quattro, which I did see her driving on the RAC Rally - amazing times & what a driver. Sadly I can't find any photos, in fact I think it may have been the year before I bought my first camera. They were expensive things back then. I don't think a kit exists, although with some research it may be possible to modify another kit. The decals are another issue altogether....

Finally, something a bit different, the Zeppelin NT airship, in which Paula and I flew from the Friedrichshafen Zeppelin factory over Lake Constance in 2015. What an incredible way to travel, like flying your living room and a similar cost. Revell made a 1:200 promotional kit, and there's an old one for sale in Italy, but thanks to Brexit that's now an international shipment with all the associated costs, taxes and tariffs.

Tony Levitt

What is a 'grail kit'? The term (as in Holy grail) refers to that model that is out of reach (or was). It's reason for being your personal 'grail' can vary. Maybe a model of something that has never been issued, or a rare issue that you can't track down even though you know it exists. It could be a nostalgia driven kit from your youth that you want to find and do better, or perhaps never received despite asking at every birthday and Xmas?

So a 'grail kit' could be a rare kit or one that is now available now but you never expected to ever see. It varies but we all have one or two. Club members are invited to reveal two of their Grail Kits and why.



Lola T93 at Goodwood Festival of Speed 2008 - photo by Tony Levitt



Above: Michelle Mouton and Audi Quattro at Pike Peak 1985 - VW Audi Photo

Right: Zeppelin NT and Tony's Nissan 370Z at Friedrichshafen 2015 - photo by Tony Levitt



Comms Check

The club is a source you should be using: Kits you don't want anymore or kits you are desperately 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



WANTED!

Likely to appear as a re-released Vintage Classic some day, If you want to make £40.00 for an un-started one now let Sibbald know. Must be in good to very good condition.

The 2026 Show poster is available for you to put up in your workplace, child's school or car window.

Did you spot the 3 other posters in this newsletter?



Chairman - Colin W: modelclub@ipmssalisbury.co.uk

Branch Secretary - Tony L : secretary@ipmssalisbury.co.uk

Show Organiser-

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.

Bound to have local interest this kit is a new tool coming soon. Hawker-Siddeley HS.125 Dominie T.1 'In RAF use', 3D printed parts included, schemes for XS714, XS711, XS736 (other versions to be released) how it compares to Airfix's vintage kit, the Matchbox version or Sword's will be interesting, there's certainly a lot of choice. Salisbury Model Centre stocks KP kits, Oz can pre-order. Manufactured by Kovoavody Prostejov (KP) Code: KPH7230 Scale: 1/72 Price: £32.99 before club discount.



MOTHERS' DAY & APRIL FOOLS

Two dates fell during this bi-monthly issue that are not thought as model related, Mothers' day and April fools' day. To keep the newsletter interesting here are some articles tied to those dates that I hope amuse and intrigue the membership, and are still a bit 'on topic' - Ed.

Gender stereotype alert! But I ask you— how else could an article on modelling flowers be inserted into the club newsletter? Flowers for Mothering Sunday is a good, safe bet but what about a creative take on this tradition? Lego has had a range of brick built flowers for some years, but now Revell and Airfix have joined the fray with plastic plants and fake fauna, petals to paint and No that's it.... I'm out.

Revell have already got their flowers out into the market place (Airfix's (Airfix'es?) are set to be released later in 2026) with 3 sets. 00630-'Blossom Festival', 00631-'Dream of Roses' and 00632, 'Flower Garden'. This range is titled Creative Wood Art Flowers because unlike the Airfix version which is traditional styrene the Revell kits are wood and include a set-specific "Fragrance Ring" that fits in a space at the top of the included wooden vase and emits a scent in the manner of a car air freshener. The vase, also in kit form, is plain white allowing the builder to further decorate it if so desired.

Airfix have 1:1 scale flower model kits, assembled with glue like any aircraft kit. The pre-release text from Hornby/Airfix reads: 'They aim to inspire mindfulness, design and nature into a calming, rewarding, model-making experience...Airfix Flowers have been created to slow things down and celebrate the simple satisfaction of making something by hand. From the first petal to the final bloom, each kit promises to offer a relaxing, immersive build that rewards patience and creativity. Every model captures the delicate character of a real flower, from softly curved petals to intricate inner structures, all reproduced at full 1:1 scale. The result is a striking display piece that looks at home well beyond the hobby desk. No green fingers are required — just time, curiosity and imagination.'



After reading that I was not sure if Airfix were pulling another April fools stunt but this seems real. No rivets to count and a chance to find authentic references could see this as a winner? And for what ifers? Some Triffid dioramas spring to mind.



Mothers' Day Acknowledged.

I'm handing over to the ladies to relate their experiences of contact with modelling and the Club

While the majority of club members are male, we do have female modellers in our ranks as well as some very supportive partners who help out at events. Here we get a female POV helped by asking the following questions

1) What is your link to modelling and your partner's hobby? 2) Did you make models prior to meeting your partner? 3) What type of models interest you and why? 4) Why do you think plastic kit making seen as a male hobby?



Roisin S

Modelling had solely been Chris' hobby up until I volunteered to be Dungeon Master for a Dungeons & Dragons campaign for him and his housemate, Matt. Although a handful of Warhammer figures on a hand-drawn map on gridded paper had worked fine for the first few sessions, I wanted something a bit more. More monsters, more traps and treasure chests, more immersion. Chris was delighted when I asked him to show me the basics of model painting. We had a rainy Sunday afternoon and a selection of unpainted miniatures that came in a "Legend of Drizzt Dungeons & Dragons" module box to start with. I'd always loved drawing and painting, had even taken a GCSE in fine art, it should have been relatively easy right? Well, that first goblin certainly wasn't going to be winning any contests: the plastic was weirdly tacky and sticky which made the paint peel off, painting on a 3D model was totally different from canvas, I still hadn't worked out proper layering or detail work. It wasn't great. But when that motley crew of goblins attacked our brave paladin and feisty rogue a few evenings later, seeing how happy it made Chris and Matt encouraged me to keep on trying.

Although I'm always keen to expand the roster of evil mages, monsters and dragons to terrify my D&D Party, I am interested in painting models of historical figures, characters from mythology or my favourite media. Having recently tackled making some terrain for the table, I would love to try making more complicated dioramas, to tell more of a story rather than my standalone figures. Along with my Tamiya Chasmosaurus for the group build, I have an intimidating 9th Century Viking, a lava dragon, as well as a plan for a nymph and a satyr diorama next on my list of projects. Chris may have also convinced me to move out of my comfort zone by making a Sopwith Camel! It's going to be facing off against a dragon, so still firmly in the range of fantasy.

I've never really been overly fussed about having interests that might be seen as more male orientated, I was that weird tomboyish girl who preferred Thomas the Tank Engine, dinosaurs and bug hunting compared to playing with dolls. Traditionally, modelling has been centred around military history, which, traditionally, is also seen as a man's pursuit. However, I have noticed more and more women partaking in both of these interests. The reasons why are countless, it would be impossible for me to list them all without turning this into a dull essay. I can only really provide my own reasons being that I am an unashamed nerd with a life-long loves of fantasy, history as well as art, and being able to combine all of those into a hobby is simply wonderful. Even better that I have found a community with Chris and everyone at the club, who have been constantly kind, accepting and encouraging of me from the very start, when I was just helping out with the catering at the annual show. I feel very lucky to have had such an overwhelmingly positive experience and hope to extend that to anyone interested in the hobby.



Tammy S

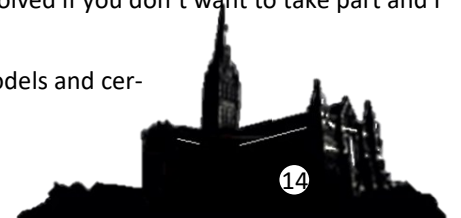
I'm married to an avid modeller, who likes to model dioramas and sci-fi and as such it has formed a very large part of my life especially as our children have modelled and occasionally come home for the odd 'Flashmod'

I never made models prior to meeting Dec, not entirely sure I ever even thought about it! I did try to surprise Dec when he came home on leave by completing a model car when we first started dating. The paint bubbled and it wasn't very good and put me off trying again.

I don't really have a huge interest in modelling for myself but the few I have tried generally are a little different, a Dyson vacuum and recently a robin with real grass in its beak. A pretty good effort I thought and almost a Flashmod win – however my husband didn't vote for me so my name didn't make it on the trophy! *(Jeez I can't believe this is still mentioned –Ed)* I also like the book-nooks as they are interesting, but modelling is not a hobby for me, I just occasionally like to dip in. I think it's good to not be too involved if you don't want to take part and I am happy to support Dec if and when I can.



Because it is military saturated and it doesn't have a huge selection of non-military models and certainly not ones that are good and aren't too expensive, it seems more a man thing.



Paula L My link to modelling started when I was a child, my father was a saddle maker so there were always offcuts of things to glue together. Apparently my favourite thing was always gluing and sticking as we called it! I did make some models as a child but didn't start again until probably during Lockdown. Tony brought me a model Vitascope projector (Rokr wooden kit) for a Christmas or birthday present and then I was hooked! I think we both have fairly creative hobbies (I also knit and crochet) so quite diverse which I think is a good thing, although does mean there are lots of projects on the go at once! Also helps that we both make models as we typically have something the other wants, paint, finishing touches, glue etc...

I typically like wooden or paper based models as I find them more tactile. Book nooks are good, however I do have a yearning to make a model railway as I really like the dioramas particularly the houses & allotments etc..

Possibly plastic kits are seen as more male as perception is they are more time consuming and you need more stuff to build them, paints, airbrushes, etc... Also a lot of the kits available are tanks & planes which for me are not of interest to build.



Thank You Ladies—Ed

APRIL FOOLS?

Nope! No fakery or April fool hijinks here despite what an initial view might lead you to think....



It's well known amongst the club, I'm a fan of Maschinen Krieger and the Armoured Fighting suits from that genre (left) but I was baffled and slightly saddened when these bogus but real (in that they have been made and exist in Ghana along with a myriad of other designs) power suits popped up on Youtube.

Not an April fools joke but definitely purporting to be something they are not, they are from the manufacturing base of APOSTLE KWADWO SARFO. A proud Ghanaian automotive manufacturer with self funded ideas that defy belief yet are trumpeted as real.

He made his fortune in assembling Chinese auto's rebranded for Africa. These cars,

'Kantanka's' were decent enough but maybe the money went to Mr Sarfo's head as he not only proclaimed himself a doctor but then an apostle at the same time as inventing items such as breath powered televisions, an attack helicopter and a way of turning sand into metal as well as items for the government to equip the Ghanaian military. The government thankfully showed no interest, though it has to be said he was feted by many important Africans as he was a great promoter and did create jobs for Ghanaians as well as a pride in what they thought they were producing.

I have included the bizarre helicopter here with its cabin facing multiple rocket pod and doors that hinge up into the rotor disk, but the iron man military suits are best seen in action on Youtube to fully understand how slow and restricting they are and the immensity of the APC that sports a cream leather interior and massive turning circle.



ABIBIMAN NSOROMA



When I saw the 1/72 model (below) by Mendip's Tim Neate I thought at first it was a 'what if' or humorous distraction. I should have known better as Tim is meticulous in his research. He has permitted me to use his words here.

"The inspiration for this model came from India's republic day parade. In the border security force (BSF) contingent, sandwiched between the ceremonial camels and the mounted band on camels was the camouflage camels of the desert border patrol. The Plastic Soldier Review website was a great help in finding the best sculpted camels and these were from HaT's British Camel Corps. I had to make the Camel a new double saddle, face mask, knee cuffs and neck webbing. The figures are based on the Airfix Bofors gun crew with arms and Russian heads from Preiser. Boots from Plastic Soldier's British infantry replaced the less detailed Airfix boots.

The figures uniforms and their reanimation were created with plastic card pieces and Milliput. The INSAS (Indian Small Arms System) rifles was made with plastic pieces and metal rod. Once I started painting the Camel, I realised that its head looked more like a sock puppet than a camel. Plastic surgery ensued resulting in a more aloof self-important looking camel. I used tissue paper to make the bridle and camouflaged neck webbing, with small pieces of granulated foam as scrim. Knotted thread was used to make the tassels on the knee cuffs. The model was painted with Humbrol enamels using a brush. "

Tim Neate.



The Border Security Force (BSF) is a central armed police force responsible for guarding India's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh. It was formed in the wake of the Indo-Pak War of 1965. The BSF has grown from 25 battalions in 1965, to 193 with a strength of 270,000 personnel including an air wing, water wing, an artillery regiment and specialist units and is the world's largest border security force.

The BSF's capabilities were used in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971 against Pakistani forces in areas where the Regular Army was thinly spread. Being an Armed Police Force, it has been entrusted with policing duties at any place in addition to its mandate, the BSF was given the task of counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and the Northeastern Seven Sister States in the 1990s.

As well as an Air Wing and artillery regiment, the BSF maintains a Tear Smoke Unit (TSU). The TSU is responsible for producing tear gas munitions required for the Anti-Riot Forces which it also exports. Other Special Detachments include a commando unit 'Creek Crocodile' whose primary objective is to act as QRF to prevent smuggling and infiltration on the Indus River estuaries in Gujarat and Sir Creek. Raised in 2009 they are equipped with ATVs and fast patrol boats.

The BSF Camel Contingent is a specialised battalion size Camelry unit. This unit patrols the desert section of the border with Pakistan. Unit strength is 1,200 camels and 800 riders but force modernisation will see future equipped units having ATV and other specialised apparatus.

(Background info condensed from Wiki - Ed)

