

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

IPMS May - Jun 26
SALISBURY



IPMS SALISBURY

GB
updates
inside



Main pic: Lightning build inside by Nick W.
Top: Japanese Type 90 by Paul C.



I am compelled to start with a generic apology, as I have on occasion made some errors with attributing models, WIPs and even spellings of names in the newsletter. None done deliberately of course but if you notice something especially with name spelling please let me know, without being told I can't break the habit. Even now I don't know if it should be Phil, or Phill.

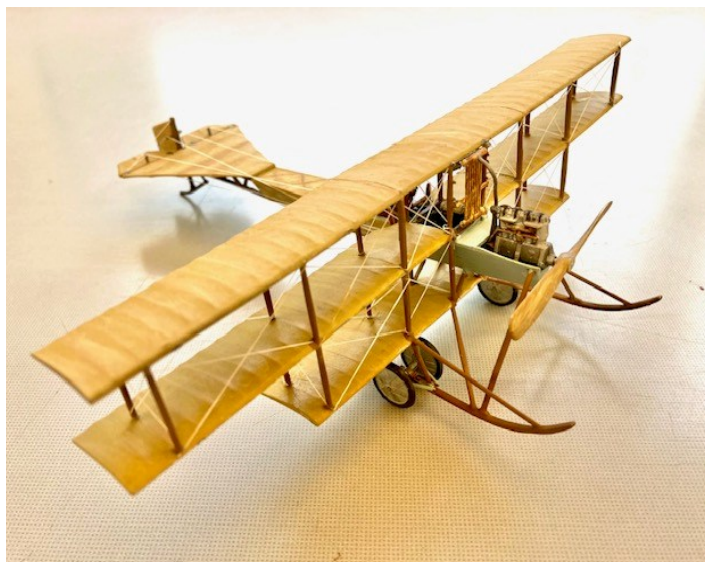
Thankfully I think everyone in the club knows that these mistakes and typos are unintentionally and symptomatic of a hobbyist's attempt at producing a content full newsletter.

And full they are, in fact the club members seem to be on a roll with 3 submissions in this edition from Nick, Paul and Tony as well as continued support for the Grail kit theme. The next newsletter (Jul/Aug) has already articles being edited including a first time submission from Tony Hawkins.

But remember if you don't enjoy writing up your modelling escapades but do have a story to tell just speak to me at club nights and something informal can be worked out like me and Richard did for last months 1/24 Pig article.

In the spirit of 'making good' the following photo has pride of place. I mistakenly got my Bobs and Robs the wrong way round; Bob took the Avro off of Rob's hands and in typical Bob fashion had it not just built and painted, but fully rigged by the next club meeting. As the box art showed in the last issue, this was no 'shake and bake' kit being first released in 1966 by Impact Kits, Rob's offering was the 1972 re-issue by Life Like Hobby Kits. Pyro had it also in their line up in 1970. It was crude by even 1980's standards yet Bob has made it look beautiful as you can see below. Finally you'll note there is little mention of our Show in this newsletter, as before (and hopefully already been in your email in-tray) a show special has been produced.

All the best—Editor.



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

Reviews: Paul C visits the NEC and Sibbo looks at Airfix's new Saracen.

Articles: Nick W breaks from tradition with a non FAA subject.

Weather report: Reference image and two simple fixes.

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

Grail Kit: The theme this time is tackled by Colin W.

Comms check: Use the newsletter to ask questions, swap info, borrow or buy from each other. An end piece from Tony L and Sibbo enlightens on Op Sindoor aircraft.



**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.

Close in number of exhibits to last month's German night, Asian theme on 5th of May was very well supported. The interpretation was wide so some of the pictures have added captions to explain the link to Asia. 18 members were in attendance as well as a prospective new member, Jim. We have had a fair few modellers pop in for a visit and see how the club runs, let's hope some become regulars.



Purposely kits by Asian kit manufacturers was not accepted as a criteria to allow display of any model even if many did hail from the likes of Academy, Tamiya, Hasegawa and the like, But Airfix, ICM and home grown 3D printed models also graced the tables as the next page shows.

Above: Chairman's 1/48 L-39ZA Albatros in 411 Royal Thai Air Force markings 2014. One of many Thai aircraft that Colin has modelled over the years. Top, Ruari receives the 'Memorial Sheild' for 2026.



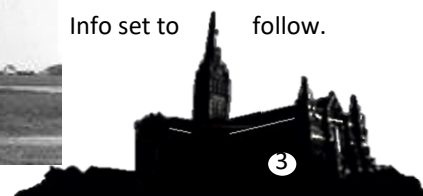
Clockwise, the Asian theme night begins at Rob's Geisha girl. The Chairman expected more Vietnam models, Mick and Sibb did add a couple. Mick's 1/48 O2-A Skymaster is from ICM, the M48 by Tamiya. Richard L had a description to explain his 1/72 Stomper with Starstreak: Stationed in Saudi Arabia in 2026 this was a vehicle from 12 Regt RA.

A range of Thai aircraft from Colin including an F-5E, Harrier, Bearcat, L-39ZA Albatros and Havard. Tom's trio all have DB601 engines, the Ki61. Me109G-6 and Mc205. Another trio from Chris, all A6M2b Zeros in 1/144, all from Akagi Fighter group but in different pilot schemes.

At the end of the night during 'Parish Notices' Chris Southwood suggested a Group Build (GB) for those inclined to join in a project he is intending to do. The salient points are presented below from him and a couple of members have indicated some interest. The build is over a long duration so you can mull it over before committing. Chris will be overseeing this GB but updates will be placed in the newsletter.

The objective is that by May 17th 2028 (this is a long-range project) we have a selection of B17s ready to celebrate the 85th anniversary of Belle completing her Tour... [based on aircraft in the 1990 film] mostly fictional, but having snazzy in-theme names and artwork. There's also a Me109 set [of] decals for the two "Buchon" aircraft used as Me109s in the film....As an extension...I am extending the GB to ANY B17s, [in] ANY scale. Mighty 8th Airforce and RAF B17s are widely encouraged!

As well as a celebration of the Mighty 8th and the other forces flying the Fortress... escort fighters [can be built if these] are appealing. Chris has posted a more detailed proposal to all club members and has some decals sheets to offer too. More Info set to follow.





After one last meeting at the Duck (in preparation for the show in case you wondered) the next big event was the annual 'memorial shield', our in house competition. Not a bad turn out of models and many genres covered. Seven models, 2 of figures, 2 AFVs and 3 aircraft. Colin had a complex build with his Airfix Sea King in IFOR markings and Chris S a vignette. Richard C had recently finished a large 3D print of Harlequin but it was Bob who surprised everyone by placing on the table an AFV in a scenic setting. It was a brave change of direction and he had used resin to have the Soviet amphibious vehicle partly sat in water. While it didn't place in the top 3 he will have learnt a lot from the excursion into more difficult diorama techniques. Sibb, Phill and Nick were this year's judges and between them settled on Toz and his Jagdpanther in 3rd place with Dave Berriman's 1/72 Australian 'Victor ' Training aircraft in 2nd with Ruari placing 1st with an amazing F-14 Tomcat in 1/48. More on this aeroplane model is contained in our Show Special edition. Also along for the night was new member Jim East who brought along a couple of models. He is a new modeller, returning after trying it in childhood and he threw himself into the show, helping set up and close down. His Typhoon is below.

While the Shield competition was the main focus some other items were on display, an almost finished dragon by Roisin and a bright Lindeburg Prewar US Navy biplane by Mick, both overpage.

Tuesday 2nd of June being the immediate club night post show was dominated by talk of what went right or wrong at the show. A roundup appears in the show special. But some finished and WIP models also appeared on the night. Reflected in the show special, Richard was attracted to many of 3D Gizmo's figurines and he already had the Spiderman one in primer.



The club contest photos above: Colin's Sea King in 1/48 with IFOR markings being scrutinised by Phil. Harlequin by Richard brightly finished. Toz did well with his 1/35 armour but Dave B below took 2nd place. Ruari and his F14 secured a place on the in-house trophy.



Bob entered a diorama using resin water for his Soviet airborne APC.



Models by Mick and Tony H that graced the club tables during the annual IPMS Salisbury show. Right: What it is all about, invested visitors seeing happy clubs displaying a wide range of models and content traders all hosted by us.



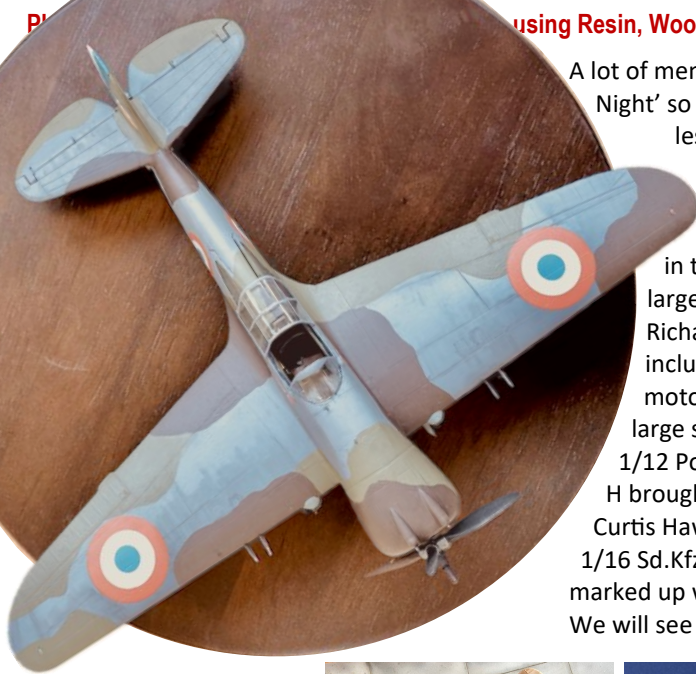
Primed in white, Spiderman appears finished over page. Right: Nick's Seafire Mk XV in 790 NAS markings below which is Roisin's lovely drag-on figurine finished in gold and white



Other projects visible on the 2nd included a JU87 by Toz with a wet look applied to the surface possibly for a future diorama, Richard also had a stash of 1/32 aeroplane kits that will keep him busy. WWII aircraft were represented by a previous built 1/48 aircraft by Nick and a Me-109 cockpit WIP by Ruari.

Rob brought back a lot of nostalgia placing a 1/12 Tamiya Honda RA273 box on the table. Unlikely to be completed by 'Big Models' night but does have a chance for being ready for the Group Build. There is an up date on the GB on page 14 along with some other Group Build developments that might inspire you to commit?





A lot of members were keen to see a 'Big Kit Night' so it was a bit surprising to have less big models on show than expected. In fairness a lot of the club had projects on the go that just were not completed in time. Richard was working on a large Samurai and a 1/32 B17, but Richard did have other large items including Spiderman, Meng BMW motorbike and a vignette using a large scale Lancaster cockpit. Paul C will continue on his big kit as will Andy and his 1/12 Porsche. Colin had completed in very quick time the Airfix 1/24 Harrier. Tony H brought along a recently completed Gloster E28 /39. Chris W had a larger scale Curtis Hawk 75 in French markings, a 1/32 kit from Azur and Sibos previously seen 1/16 Sd.Kfz 251/7 but here it was in it's final form complete with a wooden case marked up with the models designation, burnt in with a pyrograve. We will see more big kits in future no doubt.



Big kit night



Review: Key Model World Live 2026

A Weekend at the NEC – Paul Capon

This is the 3rd review to appear in the club newsletter on 'Key Model World Live' as Nick and Sibb attended as punters in 2024 and 25. This time Paul was on the other side of the fence running a railway layout with his father. His thoughts about the show are here:

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend "...an unmissable weekend of railway and scale modelling", the third Key Model World Live 2026 was held at the Birmingham NEC over the weekend of 26th-27th April. Rather than attending as a punter, I was assisting my father, who was there with his WWI-themed 009 Gauge model railway so I managed to get a rather good insight into the running of a show of this size and location.

First things first – a show at the NEC is quite unlike any other model show. Due to the many other events that were running in parallel, access was strictly controlled, not just to the hall but the site itself. Only vans and



trucks were allowed into the hall during set up, so trying to get railway modules into the hall on foot was a bit of a challenge. Hi-vis jackets were also *de rigueur*; not a bad thing as there was a Chieftain Tank being driven in as one of the displays

The event was held in a single hall (Hall 9), so was about half the size of Scale Model World at Telford. That said, they did manage to pack a good amount in, and I would suggest it did a pretty good job of acting as an intro-

ductory experience on a number of aspects of our hobby worlds. Model Railways were very much at the forefront, with scale models in second. Additionally, there was a good showing from the RC world, with a number of races being held over the weekend for RC Cars, a good demonstration area for RC Trucks, and Scalextric also in evidence.

The one thing that a show of this size really gives you is the opportunity to present things at scale. Pete Waterman was there with the Warley model railway layout, coming in at 144ft x 14ft – I suspect he doesn't get too many opportunities to display it in all its full glory!

IPMS was well represented with a number of clubs in attendance. I also caught up with Tony Horton and Chris Marston, who were there in their official capacity with the IPMS Committee.

Obviously, traders were very much in evidence, with products covering all aspects of our hobbies. I think this sort of combined event allows you to see all the variety of tools, kits and accessories that are transferrable between hobbies, and I certainly picked up a few railway scenic items that may appear in some of my dioramas.

What were the standout pieces for me? As noted, this size of show allows our hobbies to be presented at scale, and this was very much in evidence by Tiny Flying Legends, who managed to present a Duxford Airfield static aircraft display



The Key Model Live show is a pan hobby event that crams a lot into the NEC. Previous coverage is in 2025 and 2024 newsletters and like Paul's review here, show how wide a scope Key Media has. While overlapping into what seemed a railway layout the Duxford airfield was a great way to show off numerous aircraft. Likewise the D-Day Railway layout was able to show off a huge number of military vehicles in small scale. In larger scale Lorries, Armoured vehicles and cars with radio control all featured this year along with models by Airfix Magazine contributors.



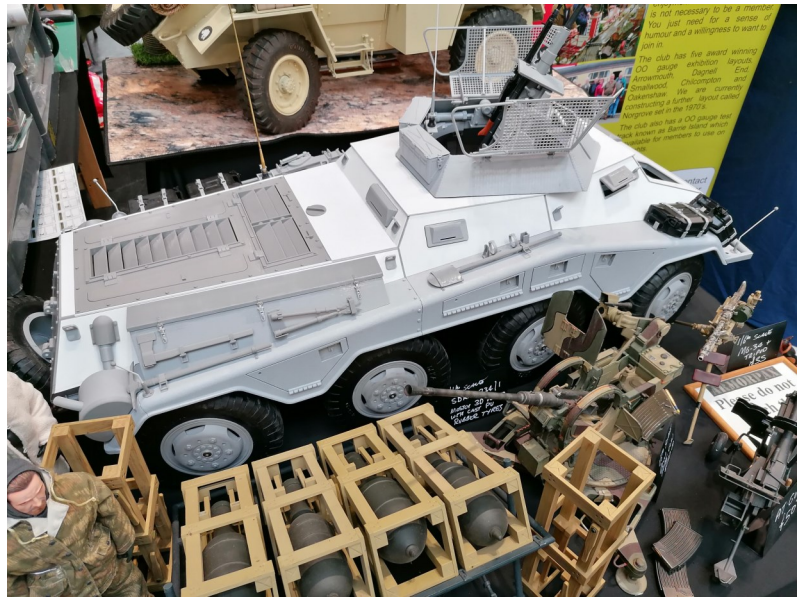
Key Model World continued

On the railway side, I was impressed by the Overlord display. It presented a complete dockside scene of ships and vessels being loaded for the D-Day landings whilst also having a working railway.

As for Traders, there was a fantastic showing from Armorpax. They produce models and accessories in (mostly) 1/6 scale, and they had some phenomenal workshop displays on show

With respect to the reason I was there - assisting with my Father's WWI Trench Railway - we had a really good weekend, with a great many complimentary comments on the layout and the story it told.

So, my thoughts on the event? It does give visitors the opportunity to see a number of facets of our hobbies under one roof. It is a great introductory event but falls a little short in the breadth and depth on any one hobby genre. If I were visiting solely as a scale modeller I would probably have been a little disappointed and would have certainly done better by attending a dedicated Scale Model Show. Factor in the expense involved, with tickets at around £20-£25, parking at £20, and then the cost of petrol and NEC-priced snacks, and you can see that careful consideration should be given prior to attending.



Photos from the event provided by Chris Marston and Paul Capon.

Review: Airfix Alvis FV603 Saracen Mk.5

I picked up this kit from Oz at SMC with no intention of reviewing it. I enjoyed the build of Airfix's Ferret and expect the Saracen to go together in similar fashion such is the new found quality and design of Airfix kits. But July's issue of Airfix Model World (AMW) has a build and review of the FV603 that I found to be so poorly written I could only do one thing, review it myself and share it with you. The background blurb about the vehicle in AMW states it was fashioned in a 'make do and mend' manner, citing it's chassis being eventually used for APC, Armoured car, Amphibious load mover as well as a fire engine variant as proof. Nothing could be further from the truth as the list right shows, the FV600 series was a family designed from the outset with the lead design being the Saladin. As mentioned in the Mar/Apr newsletter, the delay in development was part of the reason the PIG became more widespread in use.

The Mk.5 variant depicted by Airfix in this release is configured for Internal security (IS) including a US Police vehicle. The Mk.5 was basically an upgraded Mk.1 or 2 with additional armour, different vision blocks and reinforced roof. A look over the sprues indicates other version of the Saracen will appear. Despite the FV600 family sharing some parts the sprues do not seem to share any Stalwart parts from kit A1381. The wheel sprue is totally different for example.

A lot of interior detail is provided with 145 steps in the instructions, build variations allow different turret armament and wing mirror placement. The box art and instructions show a 3 rung front grille. This was replaced with a 6 rung grille during engine refits in the '80s and though not mentioned this part is also on the sprue. Pictures of the early grille are much harder to find. A Bren is included in the crew compartment with no magazine which would likely be the straighter 7.62mm version by this time. The top hatch with gun ring is not modelled on the roof parts of this Mk.5 as that too was omitted in the IS role. As the Saracen was widely used around the world by military and police (and the odd pop group) I would expect other versions from Airfix to maximise this tooling's potential.

Noticeable in the box, the wheels are un-fussy but with out a flat spot. Part breakdown looks decent without being overwhelming. Clear sprue is larger than expected as full parts are provided so care is need to paint items and leave just the indicator or vision block clear, but that will prevent glue marks. The odd steering wheel angle and drivers position are portrayed though I feel the seat might be based on a modern preserved vehicle rather than a more basic in service version. The multi faceted shape of the body means care will be needed in construction to have the angles aligned. No figures are included. My additional observations are alongside the pictures here but my initial view is this will be a nice kit to work on with a high degree of accuracy.

Sibo



1:35 ALVIS FV603 SARACEN MK.5

FV600: Series of vehicles based on Alvis 6x6 wheeled chassis

FV601: Saladin

FV602: Saladin command vehicle

FV603: Saracen

FV604: Saracen Armoured Command Vehicle

FV605: Saracen Ambulance

FV610: Saracen RA CP (high roof)

FV620: Truck, High Mobility Load Carrier, 5-Ton, 6 x 6, Stalwart Mk. 1

FV622: Truck, HMLC, 5-Ton, 6 x 6, Stalwart Mk. 2

FV623: Truck, HMLC, 5-Ton, 6 x 6, Stalwart Mk. 2, Limber

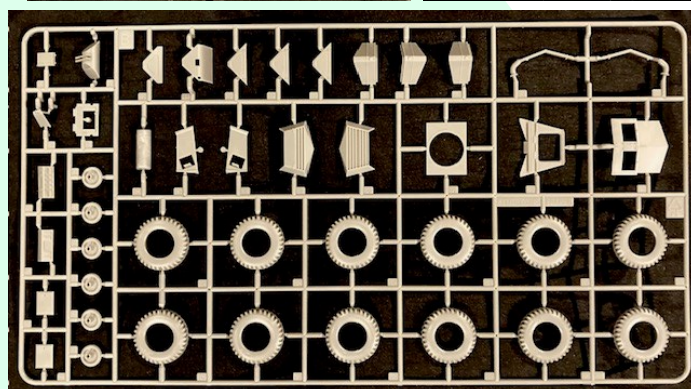
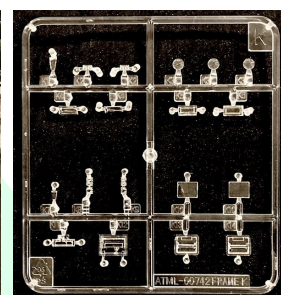
FV624: Truck, HMLC, 5-Ton, 6 x 6, Stalwart Mk. 2, REME Fitters

FV651: Truck, Fire Crash, Foam, GP, Mk. 6, Salamander

FV652: Truck, Fire Crash, Foam, Mk. 6A, Salamander



Airfix provide injection moulded chain for rear steps that you'll want to replace. This view of the drivers area on a decommissioned FV610 shows a basic seat similar to those provided in the crew area by Airfix. The drivers seat in the kit looks more like a modern car seat. Note the odd angle of the steering wheel which is correctly portrayed in the kit. Below a 6 rung grille fitted in the '80s. Sprues as per text. Decals for 83BA08 are provided as a 3 rung grille. This photo from IWM shows a test at MEXE after refit of 83BA08 with new engine and grille.*



* MEXE = Military Engineering
Experimental Establishment.

Airfix 1:48 EE / BAC Lightning F2A.

Nick Williamson sets the mood with some 'Low Level Lightning'.

The English Electric/BAC Lightning is best known for it's intended role as a high level interceptor, designed to climb rapidly to altitude, shoot down a couple of incoming Soviet bombers, then land, re-arm, re-fuel and repeat. As such it was never intended to possess great range. It was all about the power needed to climb fast and make the interception, giving the aircraft it's very distinctive design with vertically stacked engines and highly swept wings. But in the mid 1960's the RAF sent two squadrons of Lightnings to Gutersloh in Germany, the nearest RAF base to the border with the GDR, where they were tasked with low level interception in the event of an attack on the West by Warsaw Pact forces. Operating at low level resulted in the most obvious characteristic for these Lightnings of 19 and 92 Squadrons - their dark green upper surface camouflage.

These two squadrons operated the F2A variant - essentially an F2 upgraded to F6 standard - but they never gained the ability to use the Redtop missile and they retained the cannon armament in the nose.



While Nick's model graces the front cover I hope he'll forgive my use of AI to generate a picture based on his description of 19 Sqn's expected employment along the border region of Germany. While officially revealed in 1980 the TU22 was in service from 1972, 19 Sqn relinquished the F2A intercept task late in December 1976.

The Lightning has long been my favourite RAF jet, and when Airfix released models in 1:48 back in the late 1990s, it wasn't long before I found myself leaving Hannant's Colindale model shop with one tucked under my arm.

The kit. These Lightning kits, along with the late mark Spitfire and Seafire models, were the last hurrah of the "old Airfix" before financial collapse. They sit somewhere in between the Vintage Classic offerings of old and the lovely new plastic we get to enjoy today. The parts come in pale grey plastic with really good exterior details and panel lines. The instructions are not nearly as clear as the modern ones, with arrows pointing in the rough direction of where certain parts should go. The decal sheet is incredibly generous with six options fully catered for, but some of the decals themselves are slightly mis-printed with white crescents around the roundels. The cockpit and seat are ok - especially as so little can be seen. There is a good pilot figure too - although he requires radical surgery to fit. The decal for the instruments does not match the moulded detail on the panel - but it is invisible under the coaming. The main undercarriage wells of the real aircraft are pretty featureless, but the completely blank bay roofs do look unrealistic - if anyone ever looks in there...

The build. I'm not sure what it was that finally inspired me to free this model from the stash - if nothing else the huge box would leave a space I could fill with newer unbuilt kits. I also don't know why I decided on the green scheme, other than a vague desire not to build a natural metal one because that's what almost everyone else does. I was determined that this one would be strictly "out of the box" to see what I could do without aftermarket additions. Before tackling anything else I painted the highly distinctive intake ring - as I felt that this would make or break any Lightning model.

Having removed it from the sprue I took particular care to sand and polish it before applying Tamiya gloss black followed by Alclad "Chrome". The result was a pleasing polished steel look and so I felt I could proceed to the rest of the kit. The cockpit and seat were simple enough, but I made life hard for myself by deciding to add the pilot. He needed multiple rounds of carving and sanding to fit into the seat and to pass his legs under the instrument panel. (Far more work than the simple cuts to the back of the knees suggested by the instructions...)

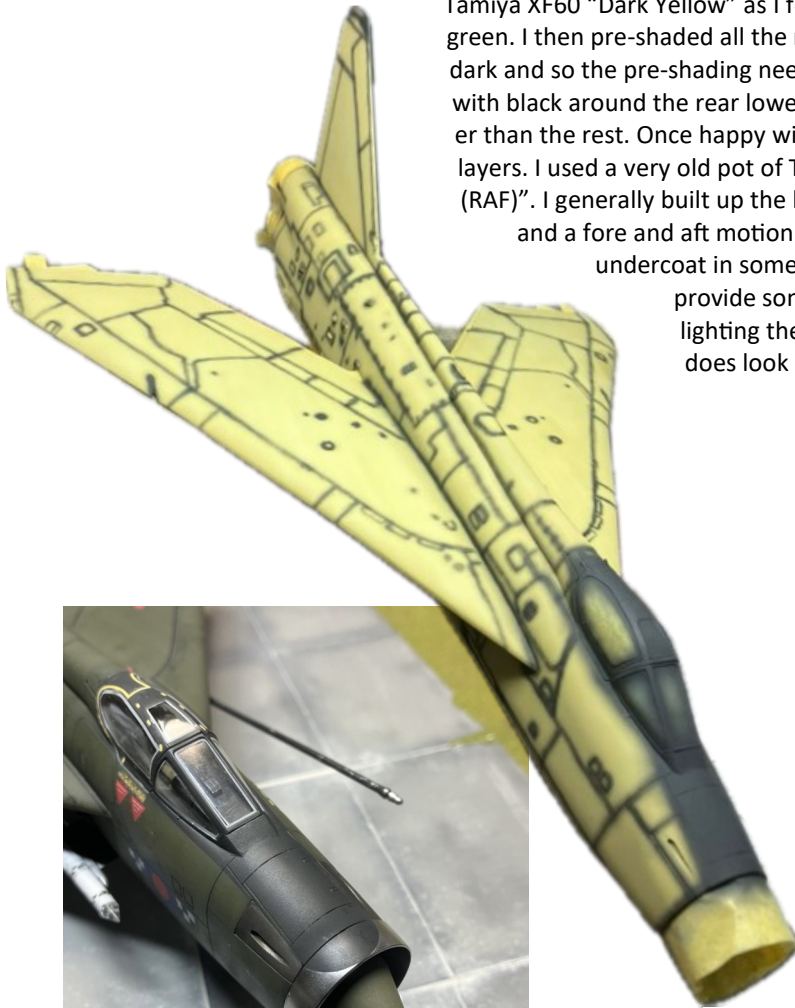


Once the intake trunking was installed, the fit of the cockpit that sits on top of it was vague and caused me a few issues with closing the front of the fuselage, not helped by cramming in various forms of weight to stop it sitting on it's tail. Before joining the fuselage, I decided to add the forward sections of the belly fuel tank to each half. When bringing the now complete fuselage halves together it did still leave a seam along the underside that needed a lot of filling, sanding and polishing - and even then it didn't disappear completely. There are a number of panel lines and access panels that run across this seam and reinstating the lines with a scribe produced (as ever for me) a less than perfect result. Silver is such an extremely unforgiving finish when it comes to the slightest surface imperfection...

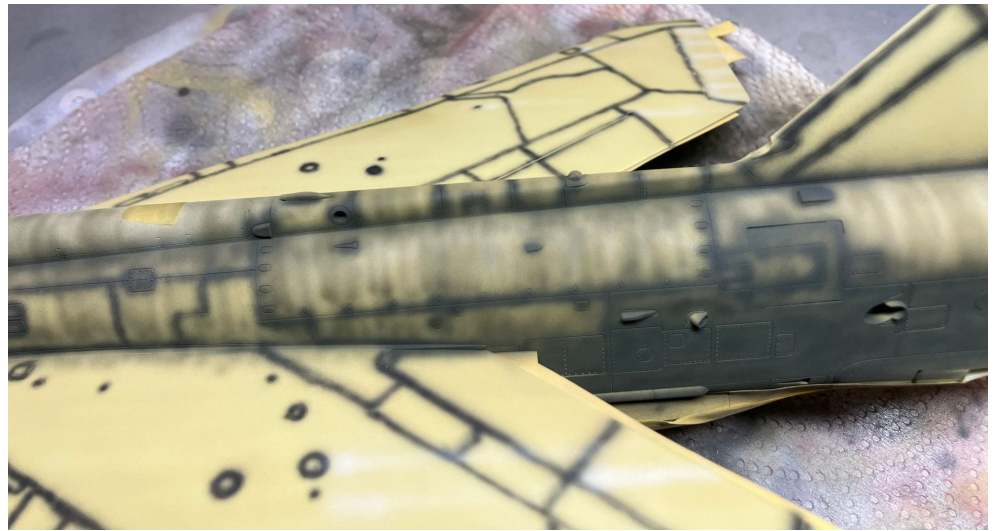


Once the fuselage was complete, the rest of the kit comes together pretty quickly and the overall fit of the parts is good. For the underside I used some Alclad metallic paints - mainly "High Speed Silver" (I don't know if the undersides of these Germany based aircraft were painted or natural metal, but they look a fairly consistent colour/tone from the photos I found - save for some heavy staining from leaks) and some Tamiya TS17 "Gloss Aluminium" decanted from the rattle can and applied by airbrush. I used some Alclad "Dark Aluminium" and "Jet Exhaust" to go over some of the panel lines and add some contrast. I used an excellent masking set from "New Ware" which helped to set the curved demarkation where the green wraps around the leading edges of the wings as well as various panels on the spine and the tip of the fin. It also provided multiple masks for the wind-screen and canopy that allow the interior colour and a seal colour to be applied before the top coat of black.

For the topsides it can be difficult to achieve a convincing look with only one colour. I decided to start with an undercoat of Tamiya XF60 "Dark Yellow" as I felt that this would provide a good base for faded areas of dark green. I then pre-shaded all the many panel lines with pure black as the green was going to be dark and so the pre-shading needed to be darker still. I also filled the centre of various panels with black around the rear lower fuselage as photos showed these parts were sometimes darker than the rest. Once happy with the pre-shading I began building up the green in several thin layers. I used a very old pot of Tamiya XF61 "Dark Green" and some XF81 "Dark Green 2 (RAF)". I generally built up the layers using the airbrush in a vertical motion on the fuselage and a fore and aft motion on the wings. I tried to leave a suggestion of the dark yellow undercoat in some areas and also to leave some of the pre-shading showing to provide some contrast to the otherwise monotone green. Under good lighting there is definitely some variation there, but from any distance it does look like one solid block of a single shade of green...



Decals. I followed my usual habit of glossing the model with a heavy coat of Tamiya X22 clear gloss, thinned 50:50 with Mr Color Leveling Thinner (complete with dodgy spelling...) Despite their age the decals went on well and generally settled into the surface detail with the help of some MicroSet and MicroSol. As mentioned above, the roundels did all have thin white crescents around part of their circumference, so a very fine brush loaded with some thinned paint and a steady hand was used to paint these out. As with most jets of a certain age, there were a lot of stencils to apply - to my eternal annoyance one of the more prominent ones on the belly shifted as I handled the model and set slightly askew - but applying them was a way to while away an hour or two whilst staying with the in-laws... Final bits and pieces. With the decals on I added the undercarriage and a number of small ariels and sensors. There was some relief when it sat on it's undercarriage and not it's tail. I decided to go with the Firestreak missiles in white as "live rounds". Most photos show dark green dummy and acquisition rounds (I think some live rounds were also



green) but I wanted something to contrast with the rest of the aircraft. They were easy to assemble but the fit of the mounting to the fuselage is not very strong. The flat finish was achieved with my usual blend of Hannant's Xtracolor Matt Varnish and white spirit mixed 50:50.

Final parts included the radar bullet, the nose intake ring, the long pitot and even longer IFR probe. Lots of bits to knock off in future, no doubt...

In conclusion... It has taken me 29 years to get around to making this one, but looking at the finished result I think it was worth the wait. Airfix have captured the stance and overall look of the Lightning really well and I am pleased with how the green scheme has turned out. Before Airfix re-released these 1:48 Lightning kits this year I know they were in high demand on the second hand market, but I'm glad I decided to crack on and build mine rather than sell it.



Weather report: Casting marks.

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



Widely seen, cast numbers and letters appear on the surfaces of most producing nations military vehicles as they are an important reference system that imparts a lot of information.

Searching the internet usually diverts to casting numbers on engines but they appear all over a vehicle, the pictures here show a US M4 bogie, a hand wheel on a US Honest John, turret optic on a Centurion tank and a German WWII sIG33 wheel. And deciphering the codes is rather complex. An excellent look at US Foundry Symbols and Trademarks, 1940 – 1945 has been written by Kurt Laughlin: [Microsoft Word - Foundry Symbols and Trademarks.doc](#)



Simple Fix : Casting numbers

Casting numbers and letters are available as aftermarket etch listed in different scales. As the pictures show scale is slightly irrelevant as multiple font heights appear, there is 3 alone on the M4 bogie. Using plastic digits is a bit easier as liquid cement will allow the plastic to soften and conform to the surface you are applying them to. Slaters do plastic letters but you'll find them for free on your sprues. Use a chisel scalpel to remove them from the runner. A pencil line will help neat application to what ever surface you need. Casting numbers are not random so you may want photo references.



While not random, it would take the grand master of rivet counters to know every nationalities' cast number reference system so you can just go for an effect. Do be careful when removing the tiny numbers its easy to slip.

Simple Fix : Enhance your case.

Normally transit boxes or storage of our models is a secondary concern, only really thought about when the model is done. I had decided early on when building my 1/16 Halfrack that the box and base would all be sympathetic to the model. I used a wooden fuse box and burnt a German style design onto it. Pyrography is the art of decorating wood or leather with burn marks caused from the controlled application of a heated object such as a poker or in my case a heavy duty soldering iron (Pyrography 30W Wood Burning Soldering Tool with 5 Tips £8.99)

A large range of tones and shades can be achieved. Varying the type of tip used, the temperature, or the way the iron is applied to the material all create different effects. I drew a design on the computer, printed it off and cut out the shapes to leave me a stencil that I could trace my tool around. The paper stencil did burn as I drew, but didn't catch fire. Once the outline was burnt in, I could remove the paper and fill in the blocks by burning the wood, not subtle but effective.



EVENTS CALENDAR

JUL 7th	Open modelling night; bring a 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. Temporary meeting location.	BOSCOMBE DOWN AVIATION COLLECTION, SP4 6DZ
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 NOT attending. See below
15th	Open modelling night; bring a WIP and spend a couple of hours modelling.	All
OCT 3rd	Abingdon IPMS Model show	Chris & Roisin, Mick E, Bo
6th	Final presentation and voting for 2026 Group Build	All
10th	REME Museum model show	Names to Branch Sec.
11th	Yeovil Model Show 2026	TBC. Venue is Taunton area.
20th	AGM	Committee and Members.
NOV 3rd	Telford preparation	TBC
6.7.8th	IPMS Scale Model World Telford	TBC
15th	Aircraft Enthusiasts' Fair & Model Show	TBC Middle Wallop.
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

Displaced member Tod sends a picture. Mono-gram's 1/48 Delta Dagger he's recently completed. Unable to make this year's show due to myriad overseas trips keeping him away from the UK he sends his regards to all and hopes to be down south again soon.

*** Mode Shows at the Tank Museum are always popular but the museum has decided to take the September show in a new direction, partnering with Warlord Games to create a 'tabletop gaming show'. The model show in February will remain the same, catering to conventional plastic modelling but for the autumn event at the Tank Museum there will not be any IPMS club and SIG exhibitors on the site and no invites to attend.**

GB Updates



The club Group Build (GB) set to finish in October seems to have garnered a large commitment from the club, it shows how attractive building a Tamiya model is, though it will be interesting to find out more from the builders about their journey to completion. Bob Leach has done wonderful work on a Tamiya Skyraider, adding wires to the engine. Mick started his Mustang build after clearing the bench of WIPs. Phill has much of the 1/48 Tamiya F-14 done, the underwing stores currently receiving attention and Sibbo has started the old 1/25 Tiger. Other GBs are on the horizon, Chris S had declared his intent to host a long duration B17 build (see Pg 3). More details will be revealed no doubt as the months unfold. More pressing but as much fun is a £1.00 GB. Initiated by £1 pound purchases at model shows Paul Capon has set a deadline of December 15th, the last meet of 2026. And Sibbo has found a £1 kit to join him. If you want in, find a £1 kit and get it done by Xmas.



Chairman - Colin W: modelclub@ipmssalisbury.co.uk
 Branch Secretary - Tony L : secretary@ipmssalisbury.co.uk
 Show Organiser-
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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.

GRAIL KIT

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.

The French produced some wacky planes in the late 40's and 1950's. Some were kitted in 1/72 and a few even in 1/48. Though being French their own model manufacturers favoured 1/50 or 1/40 rather than 1/48 but near enough I hear you say. Well I managed to get a few of the 1/48 models and you have seen the Mysteres, Vatour, Griffon and Grogard recently at club nights. The ones which have eluded me so far are the Durandal SE212, the SE5000 Barodour and the SNECMA C.450 "Coleoptere". The first 2 were released by Fonderie Miniature in the early 2000's but the latter was a Heller release. There were more of the latter around and they still come up albeit at ridiculous prices as below. I lost out bidding on one about 10 years ago for £50 but I am not prepared to pay £350 (see advert details below) so it still eludes me.

Colin Whitehouse

IN 1 BASKET



↗

7

♡

Heller C.450 Coleoptere 1:40 Model Kit



Vintage&CollectablesCo (2088) · Business ⓘ
100% positive · [Seller's other items](#) · [Contact seller](#)

£349.95

£62.11/month for 6 months at 21.9% APR with Klarna
18+, TC apply, Credit subject to status.

Condition: Used ⓘ

Buy It Now

Add to basket

♡ Add to Watchlist

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

03786, 1:32 HAWKER HUNTER T.7/T.7A



Ahead of the expected August release of this "New Parts" conversion, Revell announced the 3 decal options that will be included in the box. The classic 208 Squadron RAF Lossiemouth T.7A from 1990 (as shown on the box illustration), a 92 Squadron T.7 sporting the colours of the RAF "Blue Diamonds Display Team", 1961, and a Royal Netherlands Air Force T.7 from 1968.

Revell's 2nd release of the **Hunter**, it offers great value for money for a newly tooled large and detailed kit. Revell

states 'modellers have been waiting nearly 3 decades for this twin-seat variant to be released as a mainstream plastic model'. Expected RRP: £51.99 Due August. Revell also announced "**Project Harrier**" which will see the development of a new tool "state-of-the-art" Hawker Siddeley Harrier model kit in 1/32 scale. Due late 2027 Revell are adopting a different approach to marketing this kit, reaching out to modellers directly as its developed.



FACT

Fiat A Cautionary Tale

Background. Autumn 2025 and after completing the Ferrari 156 F1 car and Fairy Delta 2 it seemed the time was right for a nice 'n easy Tamiya build with Tamiya paints. Both the 156 and FD2 were sprayed with Vallejo water based acrylics, which the YouTube community and many others swear by. More like swear at it in my spray booth. Anyway, back to the Fiat. The build went to plan right up to the point it didn't. After many hours wasted chasing Vallejo it was time to call on Oz for a can of TS-26. These Tamiya rattle cans are as good as you can get and lay down an amazing gloss coat in only a matter of minutes. Unfortunately my mirror finish somehow picked up a tiny stain right on the top of the bonnet, just where it's most visible. Doing the sensible thing I left the paint to cure a few days before attempting to polish it out. Unfortunately, at this point I managed to burn through the gloss coat into the primer. Now what?



Remembering I'm in a model club, I took the bodysell along to the following club night and canvased opinion. It seemed like I might get away with another gloss coat from the TS-26 rattle can. Gotta be better than a vat of brake fluid right? Sure enough a near perfect finish.

On to the decals and they go down pretty well, including the giant scorpion logo on the bonnet, safely sealed beneath a lovely glossy clear coat.

The Spare Hour Fallacy

A week later I had a spare hour, but no more, so thought I'd use the time to finish off the shiny Fiat. Only the windscreen wipers and lights left to fit. Surely an easy job in 60 minutes? A tiny dab of superglue in the scuttle panel holes, and as I carefully lift away the cocktail stick a strand of glue snakes its way out across the windscreen, over the bonnet and down the front of the car.

As we all know, when you need a quick fix superglue will stay unhelpfully liquid for ages. But when you don't? Then it instantly sets like strands of glass welded into place. Remember this is my spare hour to get it finished. So instead of doing the sensible thing, I recalled having some Deluxe Materials "Glue Buster" in amongst the pots of adhesive. I quickly tried some on a piece of leftover clear sprue. Amazed it had no effect on the plastic, I soaked the corner of a microfibre cloth and set about cleaning the windscreen. Miraculously the superglue simply melted away leaving no trace. Emboldened I immediately tried the same approach on the bonnet, but for some strange reason skipping the testing step. It's that spare hour, time delimited effect again. You guessed it - the perfectly applied clear coat and paint turned to jelly. Only jelly mixed with super glue. That's not going to polish out I hear you say - and no it didn't.

Another Day Another Spare Hour

After the superglue-paint amalgam had fully cured, I masked off the bonnet, carefully preserving the section containing the scorpion decal which had so far survived the chemical onslaught. Some judicious sanding and polishing got the bonnet back to a smooth finish, sufficient for yet another go with painting. However, the surface was far from white, and looked like it would show through a white topcoat. So I decided to spray half the bonnet a contrasting dark red, to complement the red scorpion.

Once more to the spray booth, and once again a nice glossy finish. But just as I was applying the final coat, a large piece of dust appeared from hyperspace right where the original stain had been. Instinctively, I tried lifting it out with a cocktail stick, creating a deep crater in the paint. No matter how much I tried, there was no amount of self levelling going to fix this.



So I've left it on the Shelf of Doom awaiting inspiration. But honestly I might just leave it as the **FACT** =

Fiat A Cautionary Tale

When you have a spare hour, but only an hour, enjoy it without the peril. Certainly don't reach for the spray gun.

Dust in your paint? Walk away and leave it. Occasionally it disappears back into hyperspace from whence it came. If not, it will almost certainly polish out later.

Superglue across your gloss paint? Honestly I have no idea.

Tony Levitt





You may recall Richard's Op Nimrod Vignette (left) from earlier this year? I had the opportunity of hearing a talk by one of the SAS men who entered the embassy at 16 Princes Gate and freed the hostages in 1980. Frankley the talk was weak on detail but the old soldier was a nice man so I can forgive him. What did capture my attention was a model of the whole embassy site that could be split apart to reveal each (surprisingly large) floor. Built in 1/43 to utilise diecast cars in that scale it is to feature in a Channel 4 documentary. The model pictures here can be mistaken for real.



Double kit, Double take?



Perusing the adverts in the latest modelling magazines I noted a full page from Bachmann nee Pocketbond with brands such as Roden, Trumpeter Academy and AFV club whom they import. Trumpeter kit PKTM01690 caught my eye as it was listed as a 2 in 1 kit. Often that means a standard model can be finished in one of two ways. But this kit was 2 different aircraft in 1/72 scale. But the box art only really showed one a J-10CE of the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). A check of many UK retailers showed the same box art, but Scalemates revealed the fuller artwork, the Rafale of

the Indian Air Force (IAF) not only present but erupting in flames. While Trumpeter feels the very recent air to air conflict along the Pakistan—Indian border enables a modern 'dog fight double' is seems that a lot of trading countries are not so comfortable with the depiction and have pushed out a sanitised box art.

The real events started On 7 May 2025 when India launched missile strikes on Pakistan. This was Operation Sindoor which according to India, targeted militant groups based over the border. These missile strikes according to Pakistan targeted civilian areas resulting in 31 Pakistani civilians being killed. During Op Sindoor the PAF in J-10CE purchased from China engaged the IAF and downed a number of Indian jets, at least one (possibly 3) were IAF Rafale. This event is now recorded as the biggest beyond visual range air battle to date anywhere in the world. The air engagement lasted 23 minutes as logged in PAF reports, though Op Sindoor's duration was much longer as mortar fire was being exchanged across the border as well as drone attacks. The loss of IAF rafales was a surprise to observers, and Chengdu Aircraft Corporation's stock price rose after this incident. It has been discussed as to why the Rafale was easily bested, with the predominate view that the PAF Trained to use the J-10 and its underwing armaments as a complete system where as the IAF treated their airframes as carriers for missiles, a small distinction but a systems approach to operations is much faster in applying effects than processing effects in isolation.

At £32.99 these two 1/72 kits are large aircraft sold in one box . So I think this is good value for money.

I also found researching the incident interesting too, though I don't think this is one for my work bench.

Sibo

