



"STICKY FINGERS"

IPMS HORNCHURCH - NEWSLETTER

"AN OBSERVATION"

"TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT YOUR LAST MODEL YOU MADE"

Recently I visited the Southern Expo and Barnet IPMS show at Boreham Wood, and marvelled at the quality of the workmanship of some of the models. The flat tyres on the wheels and the minute detail in the cockpit, the hardware hanging on the outside etc., but how much of this extra detail has been made by the person who bought and built the aircraft or tank in the first place ?

Reading the last two up-to-date magazines on modelling i.e. Military In Scale for May 1998, total 68 pages, and Scale Aviation Modeller International for April 1998, total 78 pages. The SAMI magazine had 22 adverts for resin additives, 28 adverts for etched brass and 10 adverts for decals. In MIS there were 6 adverts for resin, 8 for brass and 4 for decals.

Can you put your hand on your heart and say that you have never used one of these resin or etched brass additives to complete the last kit that you made or any of the kits in the past. If you have used the additives, are you saying that you are not so clever in making all the minute details that go to turn a fine looking aircraft or tank into a masterpiece. Are we saying that very few people stretch sprue, make all the cockpit details out of odds and ends of plasticard, odd wire and tin foil from wine bottles etc. If everybody used the add-on pieces, then everybody would be turning out masterpieces of models wouldn't they ?

Personally I think when we see a fine looking model, or are asked to assess the quality of a model, perhaps in a competition, we should ask ourselves how well the modeller has done with the parts they received in the box, and how they have enhanced the model without using all the add-on parts that some one else has produced. I think we should honestly ask ourselves what category do I place myself into. Let's have your comments in the "Sticky Fingers" pages by writing to Peter Bagshaw the editor.

Editors Comment

Having used several of the "dreaded" detail sets in the past I would give the following comments.

I personally use resin detail sets as a way of speeding up the completion of a model, as the set means that I don't have to go to the effort of building all the detail. This is not to say that I don't feel that I couldn't turn my hand to producing the details, it's just seems easier! Although in some cases I wonder whether I would really be able or willing to reproduced the same level of detail some sets can provide.

Flattened wheels can be easy to make but the replacement ones can provide extra levels of detail, such as the diamond tread pattern seen on some US W.W.II aircraft. A case in point was the P-51 Mustang I produced recently, being based on the "old" Airfix kit, the wheels provided were devoid of almost any detail, apart from being round. Replacing with True Detail ones gave a much better representation.



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Brass sets are something that in many cases I personally find are not that useful for aircraft, except in certain areas like seat belts and HUD displays for example. Mostly their use is spoilt by their two dimensional appearance when used to replicate items such as wing struts which should have an aerofoil cross section.

Extra decals I think are something that are almost bordering on the essential. In some cases the ones supplied by the manufacturer are really bad or inaccurate, some of recent Revell kits are a case in point, the decals provided were very matt in appearance and despite mine and kit reviewers in commercial magazines, best efforts they refused to settle onto the model without the phenomenon known as silvering. Other decals provide opportunities to model other marks or simply to add individuality to a model.

In many cases I think detail sets are used by modellers to add perceived extra detail to already well moulded kits. In magazine reviews and competitions it seems that the emphasis nowadays is on the final painting finish and this is creating the perceived need for detail sets, I suspect many modellers now use the sets because they feel that to not do so would invalidate or spoil the painting by having a lower level of detail - this however is another discussion item, maybe one for another time.

Many modellers may not be used to making detail items for themselves, after all why should they when detail sets are available? If they have the money (after all some of these sets are expensive) then why not?

To answer Ken's' thought about people entering models in competitions and judging their level of skill, I think that provided the use of additional detail sets is noted as part of the description of the model then a fair judgement of the model can be made. In many cases using a detail set involves almost as much work as making the details by hand. For large competitions, like the IPMS Nationals, there are separate classes for different builds of models, maybe they should look at a detailed by hand and detailed using commercial products class separation?

"Sticky Fingers" Book Worms

For those members of the club who still have time to themselves whilst they are model making, I can recommend the following books I took out of the Barking Central Library recently.

1. "Through Adversity - The History of The Royal Air Force Regiment" by Kingsly M. Oliver. ISBN 0.9529597.0.4
2. "The Royal Air Force in Colour" by Roger A. Freeman. ISBN 1-85409-289.8. This is a must for RAF fans, packed with real colour from cover to cover. This is a super detail book for those bods who want the right weathering.
3. "Hero of The Upholder" by Jim Allaway. ISBN 1-85310-2180. The story of Lieutenant Commander M.D. Wanklyn VC DSO. The Royal Navy's top submarine ace of W.W.II. Incidentally HMS Upholder and 3 other submarines of this class have just been sold to Canada for approximately £250,000,000. The original HMS Upholder was lost during



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the war in the Mediterranean sea.

Show Visits

Once again Barnet IPMS model show has been and gone, this show always seems a friendly one, and all 15 members from IPMS Hornchurch seemed to enjoy themselves. The usual bargains and goodies were found in the boxes under the stands and tables, and some stacked on the traders tables too. Everybody seemed to find something to their liking. I myself did not buy anything as I promised myself to keep my hands in my pockets and attempt to build some of my present stock. Famous last words, I shall probably go raving mad at Mildenhall later on in the year.

On our 12 foot table, space for displaying models was at a premium, so we had to juggle some about to let everyone to have at least 2 models on show. This is a problem when nearly everyone builds to 1:48th scale and displays them on a base.

Bob Ryan and I were looking at the Brampton Model Club stand, which was opposite to ours and thought about copying their idea of an 8 inch high raised section about 5 feet long, that could be screwed together on site. Made up of 2 x 2 ft sections permitting it to be carried in a car boot with no hassle. The covering of the shelf being done using the model railway grass sheeting stuck on top. Bob said that he had some surplus timber at home which could be used, all the club had to fund was the metal screw connectors. I would like to think Bob could manage to construct this before our next show.

AGM

This month is the AGM and the following is the Agenda for the evening

1. Apologies for absence
2. Secretary's report
3. Assistant Secretary's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Competition Secretary's report
6. Election of Officers
7. Club Competitions for 1998/99
 - a) A proposal for monthly rather than quarterly competitions was raised at last months meeting and should be discussed.
 - b) Following the result of point a) competition themes should be selected - see later pages for some theme suggestions.
8. Formulation of outstanding monthly dates
9. Annual diner, a venue and possible date to be discussed
10. Model shows to be attended, if invited
11. Any Other Business



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April Competition

Aircraft

As for an end of year competition the turn out was not too bad. Once again all those who entered made a good effort, nice paint finishes and good detail, but in the end someone had to win. So well done to Mick Pitts for his very well made Gulf Hawk 4 and Wally for his hard working DC-8 Flying Tigers. Also, well done to everyone else who entered.

Results

| Position | Entrant | Entry | Votes |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| 1 st | Mick Pitts | Gulf Hawk 4 | 51 |
| 2 nd | Wally Arrowsmith | DC-8 Flying Tigers | 50 |
| 3 rd | Peter Bagshaw | De Havilland Dragon Rapide | 49 |
| 4 th | Ian Brown | Vickers Viscount | 48 |
| 5 th | Mick Pitts | Lunak LF107 | 44 |
| | Peter Bagshaw | Halls' Bulldog Racer | 43 |
| | Ian Brown | Curtiss Condor | 36 |
| | John Bennett | Airbus A-340 | 27 |
| | John Bennett | Boeing 767 | 7 |

Final positions after 4th round - Aircraft Competition

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Mick Pitts | 113 |
| Peter Bagshaw | 104 |
| Robin Bellamy | 90 |
| Mark Thompson | 71 |
| Bob Ryan | 36 |
| Ian Brown | 34 |
| Dave Ryan | 33 |
| Charlie Thompson | 25 |
| Wally Arrowsmith | 23 |
| Ken Sparks | 20 |
| Alan Wright | 15 |
| Paul Bennett | 15 |
| John Bennett | 15 |
| Ron Penn | 10 |
| Mike Morris | 5 |
| Ted Taylor | 5 |



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Miscellaneous

There is no doubt that the person who won truly deserved their trophy. Ron Newbold a man of 82 years old, putting us to shame, well done Ron. I would also like to thank those who voted for me second and Ken for getting third.

Results

| Position | Entrant | Entry | Votes |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|-------|
| 1 st | Ron Newbold | Guards Camel Corps | 116 |
| 2 nd | Dave Ryan | DinoRama | 103 |
| 3 rd | Ken Sparks | Inniskilling (Royal) | 81 |

Final positions after 4th round - Miscellaneous

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Peter Bagshaw | 96 |
| Dave Ryan | 40 |
| Chris Brown | 30 |
| Ron Newbold | 30 |
| Ian Brown | 25 |
| Mick Pitts | 21 |
| Ken Sparks | 21 |
| Mark Thompson | 19 |

It is the AGM once again and the fight for the IPMS Hornchurch and Wally Arrowsmith trophies is over. The Aircraft trophy goes to Mick Pitts and the Miscellaneous trophy goes to Peter Bagshaw. Congratulations to them both.

As we are going to start a new round of competitions could I once more ask that everybody use all their votes, thank you. I would also like to welcome the new members to the club and hope that they like the club as much as I do.

Dave



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Competition Categories Suggestions

A selection of suggestions for Competition categories from Bob Plumridge, Peter Bagshaw & myself, to be discussed at today's AGM.

Aircraft

1. Prototypes & experimentals
2. Reconnaissance & observation
3. Inter-war period – 1918 to 1939
4. Vertical Take-off i.e. helicopters & Harriers etc.
5. Multi-crewed i.e. more than just a pilot
6. Special Markings e.g. Tiger Meet or Western Pacific Billboards
7. Luftwaffe or German Airforce in general
8. All the same plane? - We all purchase the same kit e.g. new Revell 1:72nd Spitfire Vb, anything can be added (resin interior & new decals etc., so long as it's documented.
9. Japanese - Could be combined with Miscellaneous
10. WW2 Twin or 4 engined bombers

Miscellaneous

1. Rescue & recovery
2. Reconnaissance & observation
3. Tracked vehicles
4. Cross country e.g. 4x4s or Land Rovers
5. The Animal world e.g. Jaguar cars, Panther or Tiger tanks
6. Any colour as long as it's green – can then include cars, tanks or even little green men from Mars!
7. British Tanks 1940 – present day
8. Ground pounders – artillery pieces, mortar crews or even road work vehicles



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Monthly Diary 1998/99

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| June 15 th | |
| July 20 th | |
| August 17 th | |
| September 21 st | |
| October 19 th | |
| November 16 th | |
| December 21 st | |
| January 18 th | |
| February 15 th | |
| March 15 th | |
| April 19 th | |
| May 17 th | AGM |