



"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine.



To Ride or Not to Ride.
Imagine that roaring down the street.

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You need a replacement.

Peters Prattling

Next month – May 2007 – Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Please give any suggestions for agenda items to one of the committee, i.e. myself, Robin Bellamy, Bob Plumridge or Danny Alvisse for consideration.

Adventures in a Different Scale

Some progress has been made, the wings have gone together, and at the moment I'm just worried that the gun barrels won't survive the build process. The end covers for the undercarriage bays have some small seams to fill but other than that the fit of the parts have been really good.

Something For Almost Nothing

I spotted this on the IPMS(UK) forum a while ago and having seen a few responses thanking the poster for the goods I thought it might be useful to widen the audience. The posters name is Frances.

"Hi every-one. I am married to a modeller and work in the health service. I have a large quantity of needles and syringes 2ml/5ml/10ml/20ml They were donated to me as I send medical supplies to a charity in Gambia. Unfortunately I cannot send them as they have passed their expiry date. They are un-used, brand new and too good to throw away. Are there any modellers out there who would like to have them? I am based in Marple near Stockport in the North West so delivery or collection needs to be local unless you pay the postage. A donation to the charity would be nice but not a condition of receiving the goods. I just can't bear to throw away good stuff because some silly date says they are useless. Please email me if you want them Two2harvey@aol.com I'm not a modeller but I am a BATMAN fan!"

Forthcoming Shows in 2007

Shows with highlight have been booked for us to attend. If you wish to attend any of the shows with the club stand please let me know so I can attempt to book space for the club.

2007	
21 st April (Saturday)	Poole Vikings Model Club (IPMS Dorset) Show. Parkstone Grammar School, Sopers Lane, Poole, Dorset
28 th April (Saturday)	Plymouth Premier Model Show in the Main Guildhall. Doors open 10 am to 4.30 pm.
28 th /29 th April (Saturday & Sunday)	Scottish Nationals to be held at the Dewars Centre, Glover Street Perth PH2 0TH, Scotland. Show open from 10am to 5pm both days.
12 th May (Saturday)	Southdowns Model Show 3, at Lancing Parish Hall. I have sent off the booking form for this show.
26 th May (Saturday)	IPMS Torbay Show to be held at the Torquay Town Hall
2 nd June (Saturday)	IPMS Salisbury Show. Wyvern College, Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury.
1 st & 2 nd September (Saturday and Sunday)	Medway Modelling Club Exhibition, Royal Engineers Museum, Gillingham, Kent
16 th September (Sunday)	Sutton Coldfield's 31st Model Spectacular at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall, West Midlands. Doors open 10 am to 4.30 pm
30 th September (Sunday)	IPMS Brampton, The Burgess Hall, St.Ives, Cambridgeshire. Note this is a new venue and date. I've requested space for this one.
November 10 th & 11 th (Saturday and Sunday)	IPMS Scale Modelworld 2007 to be held at the Telford International Centre. Yet again I've started off with the wrong dates, see this months for the correct ones. The branch return has been sent off so we " <u>should</u> " have some space booked.

The Western Desert - 1942

Squadron Leader James 'Biggles' Bigglesworth stepped down from his dusty Hurricane IID and walked over towards the debriefing tent, wiping his sweating brow with his silk scarf.

He entered the relative cool of the tent – ‘Spy’ the Intelligence Officer was there, as was his CO, Wing Commander Wilkinson who looked up as he entered.

"Well I think I got three Panzer IVs and I made a mess of a halftrack. Two trucks destroyed too – but you'll have to check with Bertie whether that halftrack was a definite. I think we gave them a bloody nose today." announced Biggles.

"Good show Biggles," said Wilks "I've got new orders for you here – you are being taken off 'Ops', old chap."

"What?" said Biggles, sweat and grime still caked on his face, "Rommel is pressing us harder than ever... whatever can be more important than this?"

Wilkinson tapped his pipe and looked at Biggles squarely. "We need a keen resourceful officer to complete a special mission – on which the balance of the whole war might rest."

Tired as he was, Biggles eyes lit up. "I think you have the right chap sir - tell me more."

"You'll be posted immediately to Cairo –"

"Some cloak and dagger stuff crossing swords with Jerry in the souks?" enquired Biggles.

"No, much more important - we want you to choose sock designs for the summer season of the new RAF clothing collection," said Wilks, puffing on his pipe.

Biggles jaw hung open

"I'm not sure I understand - reviewing socks?"

The Wing Co. looked serious. "That's right Bigglesworth - its important we get front line feedback from chaps like you on what is fashionable... The previous Typhoon Trainers, as you well know, are now being used to line AA emplacements, anti-splinter mats on MTBs and the rest as landfill - we don't want that my mamma hates me-up happening again. God only knows why we were talked into ordered 5 million pairs of them."

"But - we've got Rommel on our doorstep, we're down to our last seven Hurricanes, we're running low on fuel and ammunition and a party of squadron mechanics got kidnapped the other day by tribesman...." protested Biggles, but he was cut off.

"-We've got those covered Biggles - firstly you be receiving new aircraft immediately - the government realises how serious the war effort here is and as a result 266 will be getting four Gloster Gauntlets." Wilks sounded pleased at this outcome.

"Biplanes?" exclaimed Biggles? "You can't be serious! How are we expected to kill tanks with those - let alone fight 109s?"

"I don't know - you'll figure it out. I would expect you to crash into them, sacrificing yourself - especially if I tell you to," said Wilks cheerily.

Biggles thought fast. "What about those eight P-40s on lend lease from the Yanks – are they still sitting doing nothing in that hangar in Cairo? Give me a day to fly out with a few of my chaps and we can have them bombed up and attacking the forward German divisions in no time!"

Wilks shook his head. "I'm afraid not Bigglesworth – RAE Farnborough has qualified them day VFR flight only – after the cockpit upgrade to install a British spec ashtray went terribly wrong. We can't use them for combat – too risky."

"Riskier than being overrun by Rommel's panzers?" snapped Biggles.

"Don't worry – it's being worked on – another three or four years and they will be cleared for use."

"And what about the fitters - aren't we going to try to get them back? I can take Algy with me and we can beat up that tribesmen's fort with cannon until their eyes water..."

"Heaven's no - all we're going to do is put out a few press releases and maps and keep our fingers crossed- no point in inflaming the situation... Once they see that our maps are correct they'll do the decent thing" said the Wing Commander, pointing at the situation maps in the Int tent.

"But – what if they don't hand them back?"

"Then we'll get really tough – with a bring-and-buy sale, a T-shirt press event and an wireless telegraph petition campaign." Wilks clamped his jaw.

"And another thing", said Biggles, "two days ago Algy almost got shot down by a couple of over-aggressive Yanks."

"Well did he identify himself properly? – They are very new in theatre, you know."

"Yes – he fired the colours of the day, but the clots kept on attacking."

"Well I don't know," said Wilks angrily. "Why don't you paint your aircraft with luminous orange panels? – They wouldn't be able to miss those, surely."

"I wouldn't count on it...sir" Biggles was suddenly tired and made for the tent flap.

"Before you go there's some more admin news from the top. Fighter Command, Bomber Command and Coastal Command are all merging to form Air Command - unusual name, eh? While that move will be creating more three star slots at high level, we will be generating a more cohesive trained audience out here in the desert. Impressive, eh?" Wilks beamed at the thought of redoing the squadron's letterheads to incorporate another mission statement.

"Audience?" said Biggles, "This isn't the Windmill Theatre sir!!"

"Now, now Bigglesworth" said Wilks to the pilot, "No need to get all defensive. There will still be plenty of command slots what with the new Merchandising Command being formed."

But Biggles was already striding out - dust was blowing across the desert as the last of the squadron taxied in to dispersal. He entered his tent and was astonished to see a young woman with blonde hair, sitting at a desk with mirrors, and a hairdryer preening herself.

"Aren't you in the wrong tent?" asked Biggles.

"No, sir I've been posted here - do you want to put your stuff in my Samsonite? your kit looks a bit dusty... that black heavy thing.."

"My service pistol -"

"...nearly fell on my foot" she said accusingly.

"We'll see about this" said Biggles quietly.

"OK - but can you be a sweetie and hold this mirror while I just rub this suntan lotion in - I might as well get a decent tan while I'm here – say - have you got any toe separators so I can do my nails?"

But Biggles had spotted Wilks walking past the lines outside his tent. "One moment," he snarled.

"Wilks - why is there a WRAF in my tent?" he said in a low voice. "And I fully realise that question may be an insult to WRAFs."

"A WRAF? No, that's your new wingman, or wingwoman, anyhow." Wilks grinned, "Don't worry about her - she's a good stick - she's only admitted to pranging five aircraft so far..."

"Five aircraft so far?" asked Biggles, eyes wide, "But there are lots of women flying in the ATA today who have probably got more hours on Spits and Hurris than me - so where on earth did we find her?"

"On a reality radio show - where else? Do keep up with things, Biggles." Wilks said condescendingly. "After the success of Big Soldier and the Navy doing Sailor Idol – the RAF had to do something so we had 'How do you solve a problem like the Luftwaffe?' - and she won..."

"But surely sir the way to beat the Luftwaffe is by killing them and breaking their stuff?" said Biggles, thinking of those panzers in his gunsight earlier today.

"That's a bit kinetically minded old chap - look you'll just have to lump it – she's very popular with the general public. And I'd keep you sexist anti-wingwoman comments to yourself or you'll get voted off the squadron very early..."

Biggles looked shaken. "Voted off the squadron? By who sir?"

"The general public, of course. We're hosting Celebrity Love Oasis at this airbase from next week - haven't you heard?" said Wilks.

"I'm afraid that news passed me by, sir, what with the Afrika Korps knocking on our door..."

"Well, no matter, just get cracking on the sock designs – and remember Bigglesworth, I expect every pilot in this squadron to make the ultimate sacrifice and crash into the highest priority, ultimate target if the situation demands it..."

"What sir? – do you mean that Adolf himself has been spotted visiting the front line?" asked Biggles hopefully.

"No, you dummy!" exploded the Wing Co, "The Afrika Korps is about to launch its revamped spring women's fashion collection – I want their head stylist taken out – otherwise we're never going to shift those RAF bikinis I requested! There's a whole convoy full of 'em due in from Malta tomorrow!"

"And our desperate fuel and ammo situation sir?"

"I don't know – for you it's always the glass is half empty isn't it Bigglesworth..." said Wilks, walking away...

Biggles wasn't listening as stood watching his CO walk away. Nearby erks, stripped to the waist, were busy loading 40mm rounds in 266's Hurricanes, under the merciless sun, ready for action.

He squinted his eyes into the distance. What was happening to his beloved air force? Rommel was on the offensive - the chips were down and the air marshals were interested in sock patterns... Was this any way to fight a war?

More Biggles action next time!

Biggles conducts a friendly fire inquiry

Biggles PVRs

Biggles gets poached by the airlines

Peter

First Grade.....true story.

One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs to her class. She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to accumulate the building materials for his home. She read, "...And so the pig went up to the man with the wheelbarrow full of straw and said, "Pardon me sir, but may I have some of that straw to build my house?"

The teacher paused then asked the class, "And what do you think that man said?"

One little boy raised his hand and said, "I think he said 'Holy Sh*t! A talking pig!'

The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.

Competition Standings after 4th Round.

Wally Arrowsmith Trophy (Aircraft) 1/72nd Scale or Less

Position	Entrant	Model	Votes
1 st	Alan Wright	Grumman A-6 Intruder	42
2 nd	John Bennett	Viscount 800	40
3 rd	John Bennett	Avro Lancaster	36
4 th	Peter Bagshaw	De Havilland Mosquito NF.II	32

Greater than 1/72nd Scale

Position	Entrant	Model	Votes
1 st	Keith Money	Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	45
2 nd	Alan Wright	Focke Wulf FW-190 D-11	40
3 rd	Robert Smith	North American P-51D Mustang	38

Positions after 4th Round

Position	Entrant	Points
1 st	John Bennett	131
2 nd	Paul Bennett	89
3 rd	Peter Bagshaw	84
4 th	Ian Brown	73
5 th =	Alan Wright Robert Smith	69
	Robin Bellamy	48
	Keith Money	25
	Danny Alvisse	24
	Jon Lowe	23

IPMS Hornchurch Trophy (Miscellaneous) Military Vehicles

Position	Entrant	Model	Votes
1 st	Mick Pitts	Daimler Armoured Car	47
2 nd	Mick Pitts	Crusader II	41
3 rd	Peter Bagshaw	Challenger II	38

Miscellaneous

Position	Entrant	Model	Votes
1 st	Phil Worth	Submarine U-XXIII	49
2 nd	Danny Alvisse	Mercedes Benz SLK	37

Positions after 4th Round

Position	Entrant	Points
1 st	Danny Alvisse	123
2 nd	Phil Worth	50
3 rd	Mick Pitts	48
4 th	Peter Bagshaw	46

Pictures of March competition.

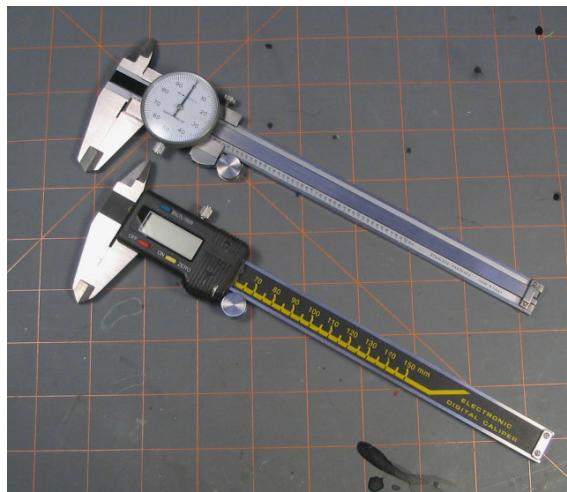




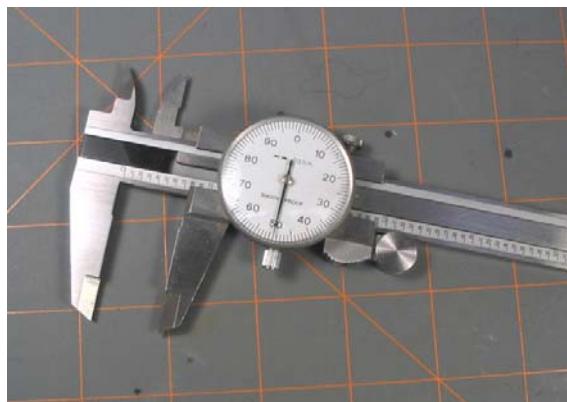
How To: Using Dial/Digital Callipers

Useful if you do scratch building.

Simply put they are a precision measuring tool. Used with a simple calculator, it's the best scale conversion tool I've ever found.



Digital and dial models. The digital is pretty obvious to read. The dial is easy also; it just takes a moment to learn to use it:



This calliper reads 0.750 inches, or 3/4". The scale that runs the length of the beam shows that it's open just over 7/10 of an inch, and the dial shows how much more. $0.700 + 0.050 = 0.750$. Quick and easy when you've learned how.

Dial callipers are available in either decimal inch or metric- or you can just multiply/divide by 25.4 to convert between. Digital callipers, you just push a button to convert.

Either set can be used for very small measurements.



This enamel wire is 0.011" in diameter- just over one one hundredth of an inch. Multiply this by 24, and in 1/24 scale, it would be 0.264" - perfect for 7mm spark plug wire.



The wheels in the Dragon BMW M3 kit measure 0.780" in dia. Times 24 = 18.72". A bit large for the 17" they're supposed to be- but that's kit accuracy for you.



Pressing the inch/mm button quickly tells you that they're 19.82mm- for those of you who enjoy the metric scale.

Inside measurements can also easily be done-



The rims are 0.683" wide on the inside, or 16.4" in 1/24. Minus a little bit for the brake callipers, and that's the largest size Brembo disk I can fit into this wheel.

It also works just as well in reverse:



The seat belts on a full size M3 are 1.860" wide. Divide by 24, and in 1/24, the seat belts should be 0.077".



I wouldn't model without a set!

This was taken from the internet after I got myself a set of the digital callipers they cost me at the time around £10 but they are on an internet site a few of us have used the site is www.hiroboy.com
He has the digital ones for £12.99

Follow on Tip.

Following on from a tip from the Norfolk nerd about using Vaseline on your brushes to keep them supple and in shape I prefer to use a bar of soap it does the same job and is easier to wash off. While the brush is wet after cleaning brush over the soap then shape the brush to a point stand upright and leave to dry.

You need a replacement.

Yes I know Sticky Fingers has not been the same since Peter Bagshaw had to give it up and I took over but hey I gave it a shot which is what one of you will have to consider doing after the AGM as I am sorry to say I will have to give up the post as Editor.

At times it was enjoyable to put together but then there was times it wasn't, this was due to a let down from club members.

Articles were asked for but there was hardly any sent.

We all enjoy the hobby of scale model building and I thought that passing on information to other members or people interested in the hobby would have been worth while. Ok my hand is up as well I should have wrote more for the magazine but when you get no inspiration from those in the hobby you lose heart and wonder why you yourself should bother trying to put ink on paper.
