



"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine

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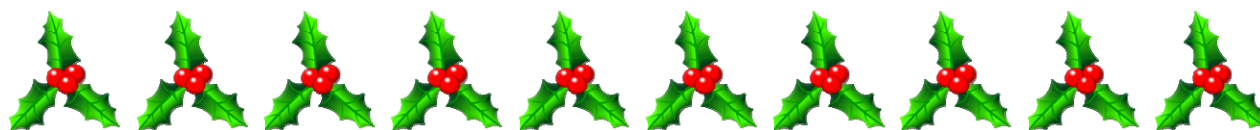
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Peters Prattling



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Seems a little strange to be writing these words in mid December but such is the needs of a deadline. Nevertheless I would like to take the opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Next month – January 2008 – Competition Round 3



Southern Expo is on! 15th & 16th March 2008

After the announcement of the show at the IPMS Nationals we have had a very respectable flood of traders and clubs requesting space so most of the planning is progressing. As ever we will be asking for volunteer help in setting up, breaking down and probably various other tasks required throughout the show.

Don't forget to check the Expo website for updates <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/southernexpo/>

Aerodrome Walk

On Saturday 24th November an "Open Day" for RAF Hornchurch was held, not very well publicised though! This consisted of an exhibition about the airfield at the RJ Mitchell School and 2 guided walks around the Hornchurch Country Park, which is the site of the old airfield. My wife and I managed to find time to go on the afternoon walk and I suspect the exhibition was the display that the Purfleet Heritage group brought along a few years ago.

A group of about 20 people with the guide set off from the Squadrons Approach parking area, which is one of the original E pens used to house Blenheims based at the airfield. We were taken from there round the back of to see one of the gun enclosures, in this case the base for the Naval 3 inch gun sited there as part of the base defences. From there we walked along one of the main tracks which skirts the park and follows what it pretty much the



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perimeter track. Along the way we were shown the remaining pillboxes and one man turrets sunk into the ground topped off with a concrete ring to mount a machine gun in. Some of the other E pens are still around but are disguised under the contours of the ground. Unfortunately a lot of the history of the area has been lost as the main runway areas were cleared during the gravel extraction phase of the airfields history, the only areas of interest/archaeology are now contained around the edges of the park. There was a program called "Two Men In A Trench" a few years ago which featured the airfield, the guide was saying that much of what was "discovered" on the program they already knew about, they just had to spoon feed the presenters and point them in the right direction. There doesn't appear to be a DVD of the program available at the moment but the Hornchurch dig is detailed in the 2nd book (ISBN 0718145941) of the same name as the series.

One other item of interest is that they are hoping to build a visitors centre in about 5 years time and have a small display about the airfield. I suggested it might be interesting if the club could build some models to show some of the planes which flew from Hornchurch. I'm not sure whether the suggestion sank in but it would be worth keeping an eye open to see if the plans ever get going and liaising with them again.

If you do have an interest in the local history I can thoroughly recommend a visit to the park.

Shesto Special Offer

I spotted this offer on the IPMS(UK) website (<http://www.ipms-uk.co.uk/>)



... we would like to offer any of your members who visit our new web site and place an order before January 31st 2008, a 10% discount from our regular prices as well as a free gift of a pair of tweezers with a magnifying glass.

... from February 1st 2008, all IPMS members will continue to benefit from our 10% members discount scheme, but without the free gift.

To take advantage of the above offer, you will require a special 'Discount Code' which you will need to input at the checkout of the new 'Shesto' website (<http://www.shesto.co.uk/>). The code is available by sending an email to me (ipmsukwebmaster@btinternet.com) requesting the code, you should include your IPMS membership number, and the code will be sent by return of mail at the earliest opportunity.

My P-40 At The Nationals

Here is my P-40 in all its glory on the competition tables at the Nationals.





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Forthcoming Shows in 2008

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.

2008	
20 th January (Sunday)	IPMS Bolton present the 8th Bolton Model Bonanza which will be held at St. Josephs RC High School, Chorley New Road, Horwich , Nr Bolton BL6 6HW.
3 rd February (Sunday)	ModelKraft 2008, Milton Keynes. New venue, Stantonbury Campus Leisure Centre, MK14 6BN. The invite has been completed and sent back
17 th February (Sunday)	IPMS Wakefield present Huddersfield 2008 to be held at the Huddersfield Sports Centre, Southgate, Huddersfield , West Yorkshire HD1 1TW
15 th & 16 th March (Saturday & Sunday)	Southern Expo 2008
6 th April (Sunday)	Modelsport 2008 to be held at the Holiday Inn, St Quentins Gate, Telford . Shropshire Scale Modellers in association with RAF Cosford present the Shropshire Model Show to be held at the RAF Museum at Cosford
19 th April (Saturday)	Poole Vikings Model Club (IPMS) Dorset annual show at Parkstone Grammar School, Sopers Lane, Poole , Dorset. BH17 7EA
11 th May (Sunday)	IPMS Gloucester annual show at the Churchdown Community Centre, Churchdown, Cheltenham (Nr Staverton Airport),
31 st May (Saturday)	IPMS Salisbury annual show at Wyvern College Sports Hall, Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury SP1 1RE
6 th September (Saturday)	IPMS West Cornwall annual model show at St John's Hall, Alverton Street, Penzance , Cornwall TR18 2QR

Peter



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Robins Ruminations

First of all let me put my hands up and apologise to the members who were looking for last months Sticky Fingers. I left the copies out of my bag last month; sorry for that and I have brought them in this month, well, I hope that I've remembered to bring them!

Southern Expo

At the time of writing the planning for Southern Expo is simmering away gently in the background, with a trickle of returns from the clubs & traders still coming back to us. Other than that, on the Expo front, nothing to report, thankfully.

Back to the 60's

For those indulging how is your 1960's model for the Hornchurch club display at Southern Expo coming along? My wife has chosen my model for me, a Mig 17 of the Egyptian Air Force during the 1967 Six Day War. I was undecided between about four models, Mirage III, F-4 Phantom, Mig 21 or the Mig 17. So I gave the instruction sheets to my Wife for her opinion as a non modeller and the Mig 17 was chosen as it looked "different and pretty" in its desert camouflage, good enough reason, executive decision made! So I am now rifling through my references for Mig 17 photos, plans and general information on the aircraft and its use in the above-mentioned conflict. I have already dug out a very old, basic and now unobtainable etched set from Eduard, one of their first sets. It's funny to see the cottage industry style products from this now, major manufacturer.

I have been asked many times, the last time at the Nationals "how long does it take you to build a model" and I've always had to admit that I have no idea. For the Mig 17 I'm going to make a conscious effort to keep a track of how long it really does take me to build a model. I'll also try to keep notes for a build article for Sticky Fingers just so I can bore all of you. You have been warned!

Looking back, looking forward.

As the year draws to a close I am reflecting on what has been for me a fairly traumatic year in my personal life, but as that chapter closes I have a new year to look forward to. Things at home are settling down, decorating drawing to a close, Southern Expo rising like a phoenix from the ashes and the prospect of more time to devote to personal projects. All my models, magazines and accessories to be sorted, checked, catalogued, books to be read and of course, more models to be built.

I will have brought, (if I've remembered that is), the modelling CD's I purchased at the Nationals and a couple of the associated kits for you to have a look at while we indulge in our customary nibbles.

Well it only leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

Robin.