



SCALE-MAIL

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From the Editor

Apologies for the lateness of this month's edition. I was a fair way through compiling it when I came down with COVID. That's a new experience for me and it was a bullet I'd naively hoped to dodge. As I am now on the road to recovery I can slowly get back to those activities that COVID so rudely interrupted like finishing this newsletter.

Not much else to report on this month apart from the nationals. To keep up with the latest news and information about the event please visit our Facebook group

[IPMS New Zealand Nationals 2023](#)

NEXT MEETING

7.30 pm Tuesday 21/2/2023

Royal Oak Bowls

146 Selwyn St, Onehunga

COMMITTEE

Chairman - Craig Sargent Dave Fish
Secretary - Brett Peacock Lance Whitford
Treasurer - Mark Robson

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ipmsauckland>

The Nationals are coming

IPMS NEW ZEALAND
NATIONALS
COMPETITION AND DISPLAY
29 SEP - 1 OCT 2023
VENUE: TBA, AUCKLAND

It's even closer than you think !

BULLETIN BOARD

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBS *** 2023/24 NOW DUE *******

Subs for 2023/24 now due -see below for club account details or see the club secretary

| Membership Type | Description | Cost |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| Full | Living in the Auckland Metropolitan Area | NZ\$45 |
| Out Of Town | Living 75km or more from central Auckland | NZ\$30 |
| Junior | Same rights as full membership for those under 16 | NZ\$25 |

**IPMS BANK ACCOUNT
NUMBER**

03 0162 0012960 00

Please add your name and details so we know who has paid!

EVENTS

CLUB NIGHT EVENTS

IPMS Auckland Meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm

**Venue: The Sports Lounge
Royal Oak Bowls
146 Selwyn St, Onehunga**

February Photo etch tips and techniques workshop

**IPMS NEW ZEALAND
NATIONALS
COMPETITION AND DISPLAY
29 SEP - 1 OCT 2023
VENUE: TBA, AUCKLAND**

[IPMS New Zealand Nationals 2023](#)

BULLETIN BOARD

CLUB SUPPORT

The following retailers have kindly agreed to offer IPMS Auckland club members a discount on their purchases upon presentation of their current IPMS Auckland Membership card.

The discount only applies on selected product lines and remains at the discretion of the retailer.



Modelair

349 Dominion Road
Mount Eden
Auckland
p: 09 520 1236



Cnr Market Rd & Gt South Rd
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Ph: (09) 520 1737

10% on kits and modelling supplies

Constellation
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Ph: (09) 441 3562

10% on kits and modelling supplies



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27 Davis Crescent
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10% off most items on presentation of IPMS Auckland Membership Card.

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28 Lauren Grove, RD 2, Papakura,
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Das Werk 1/32 Junkers EF 126/Ef127

By Brett Peacock

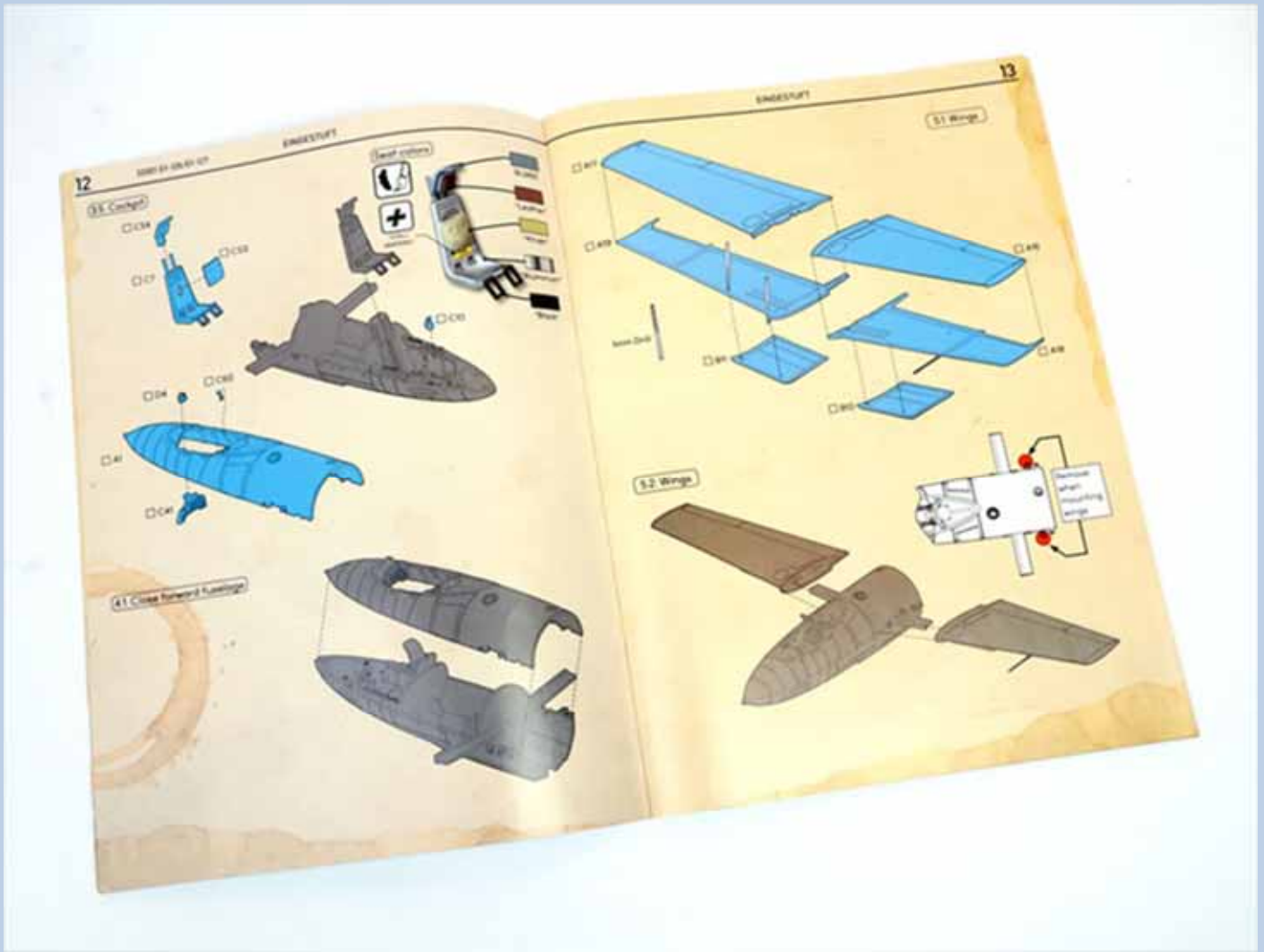


. Kit 48310, Price (on Trademe) was \$110.00 plus P&P.

There are 156 parts on 3 large grey sprues (total) and 4 parts 1 clear sprue. 5 Marking options (4 for Luftwaffe and 1 captured Russian flown example. There is no PE included, but a static Dolly and a Launch Trolley for 2 types of the 3 options is included in the kit. The decal sheet is large and includes quite a large amount of stencils, a guide for which is in the instructions.

The kit can be made as one of 3 different options: An EF126 with a single Argus Pulse jet (Making it look very like a V1/Fi 103), a twin Argus configuration, as flight tests showed the single argus left it underpowered for 1944/45 – the fix was to be much better.) and a tailed version (Never finished or flown) with 2 Walther Rocket engines and twice the fuel capacity of the Messerschmitt Me-163B. Sadly you have to make the choice fairly early on as each option uses a different rear fuselage (Ef126 (single or Double – the attachment parts differ) uses one, EF127 (Rocket powered uses the other. The stage is reached after about 6 construction steps. Your first choice is whether of not to build it on a factory Dolly, sans Wings, or ready to fly on the launch Trolley. The choice of single or twin Argus comes early on the build of the Rear fuselage(s) A little research online shows that Das Werk also make wood finish decals for the unpainted version (About ½ the airframe was wooden) and a very nice late war Luftwaffe Pilot figure to fit. Available separately.

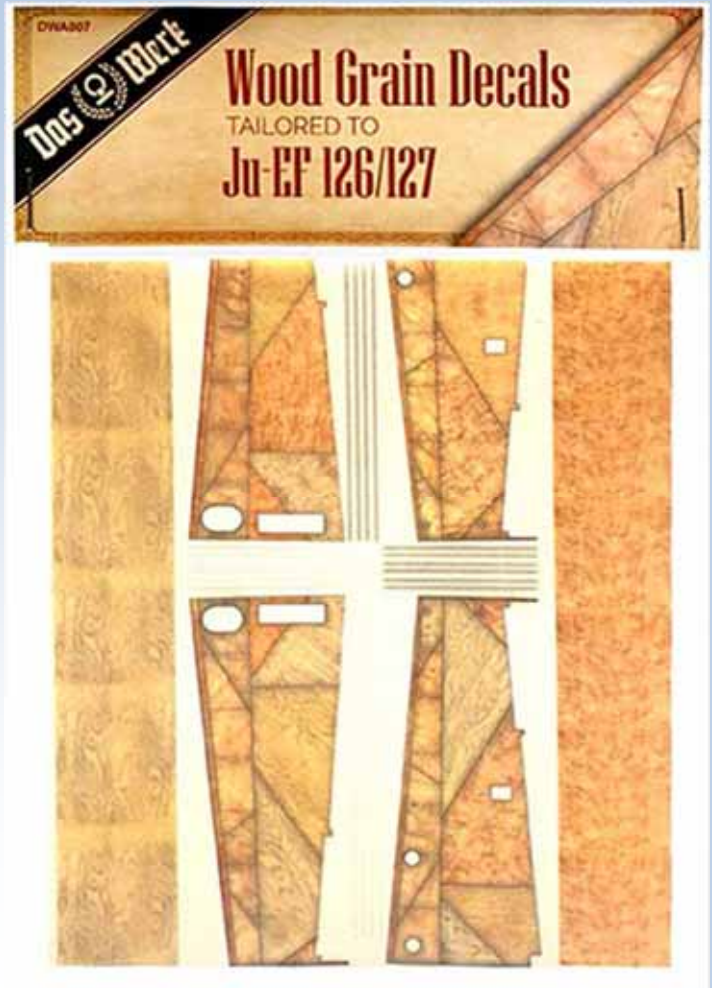
Yes, another “paper Project, but one that did at least reach prototype stage for at least 2 of the 3 kit options. I am especially impressed by the very clear and helpful instructions, which have taken a page from Zoukei-Mura’s instructions and are styled like an RLM Manual, right down to coffee stains on some pages!



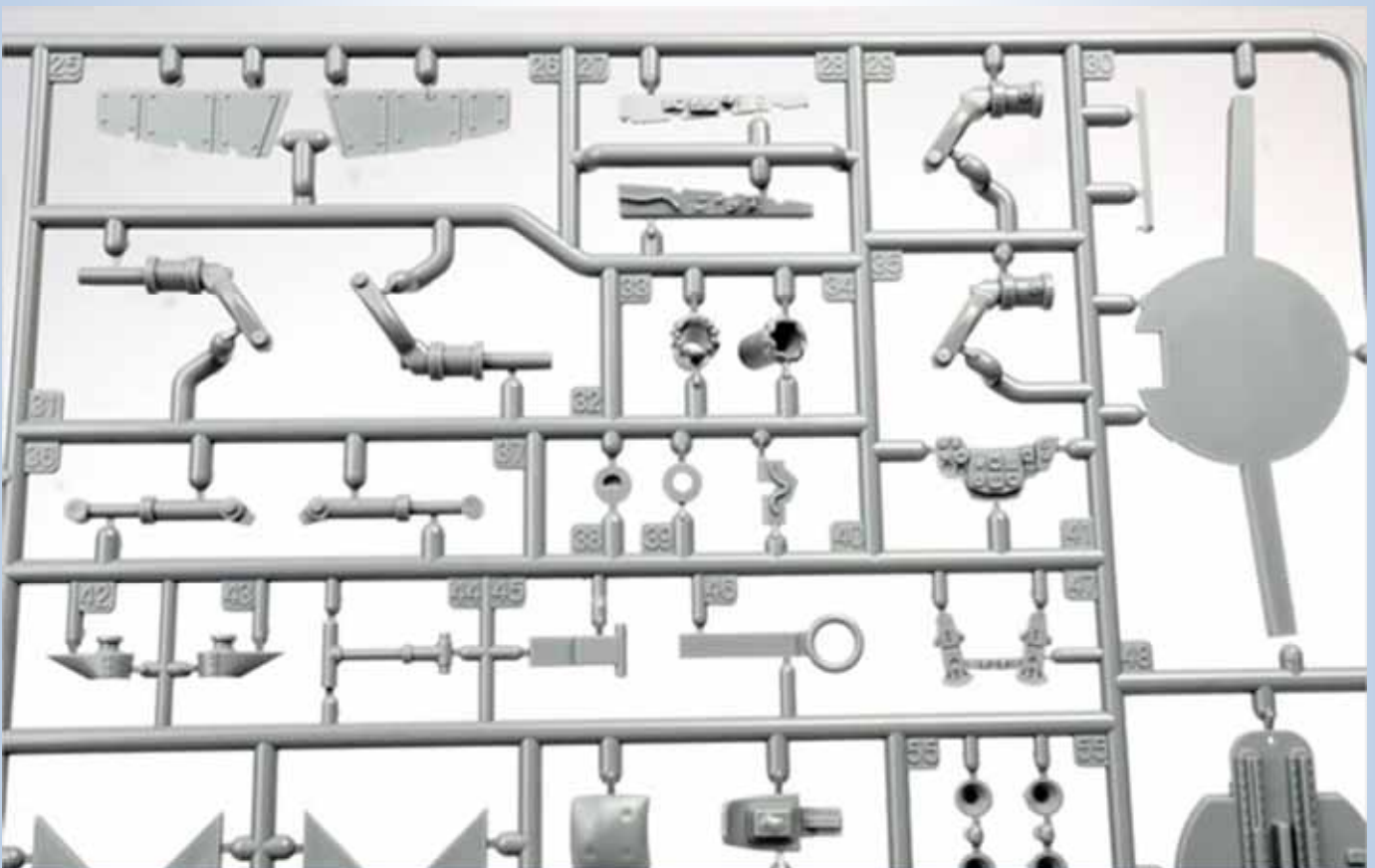
The pilot figure (Separately available)



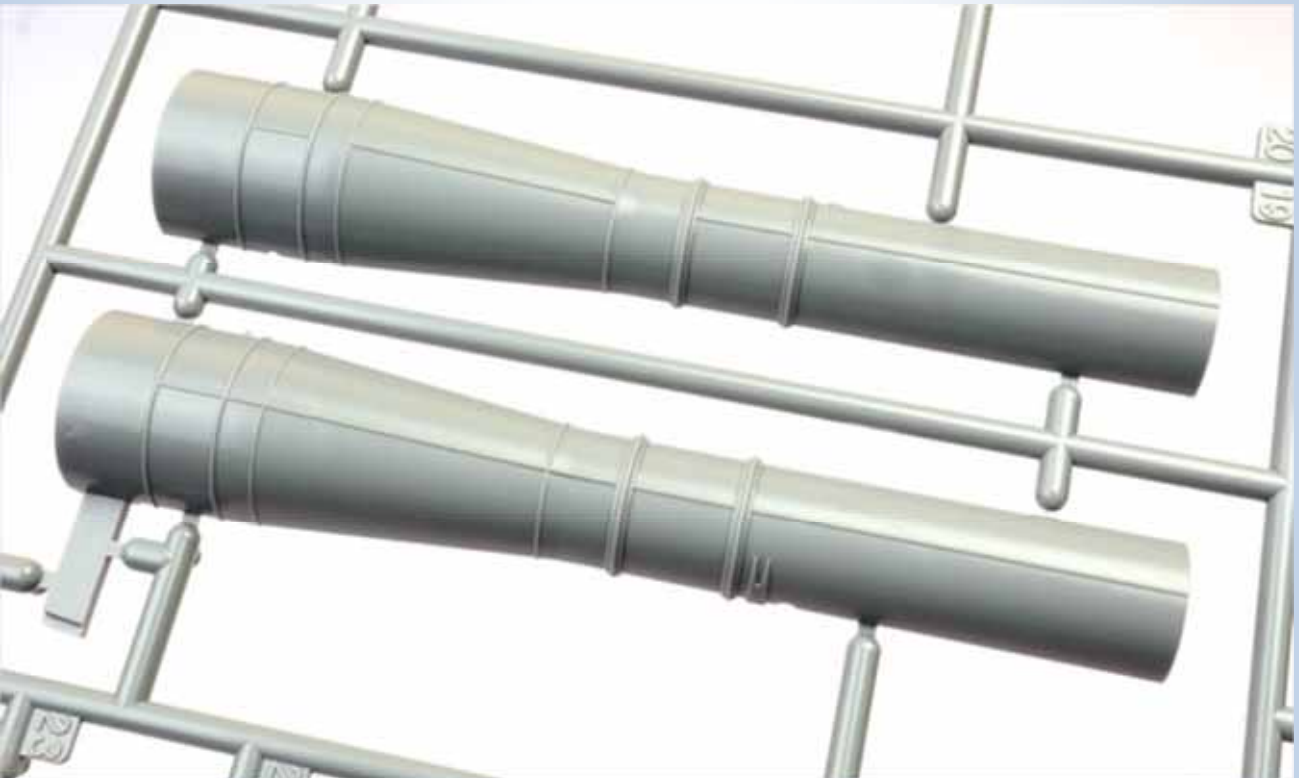
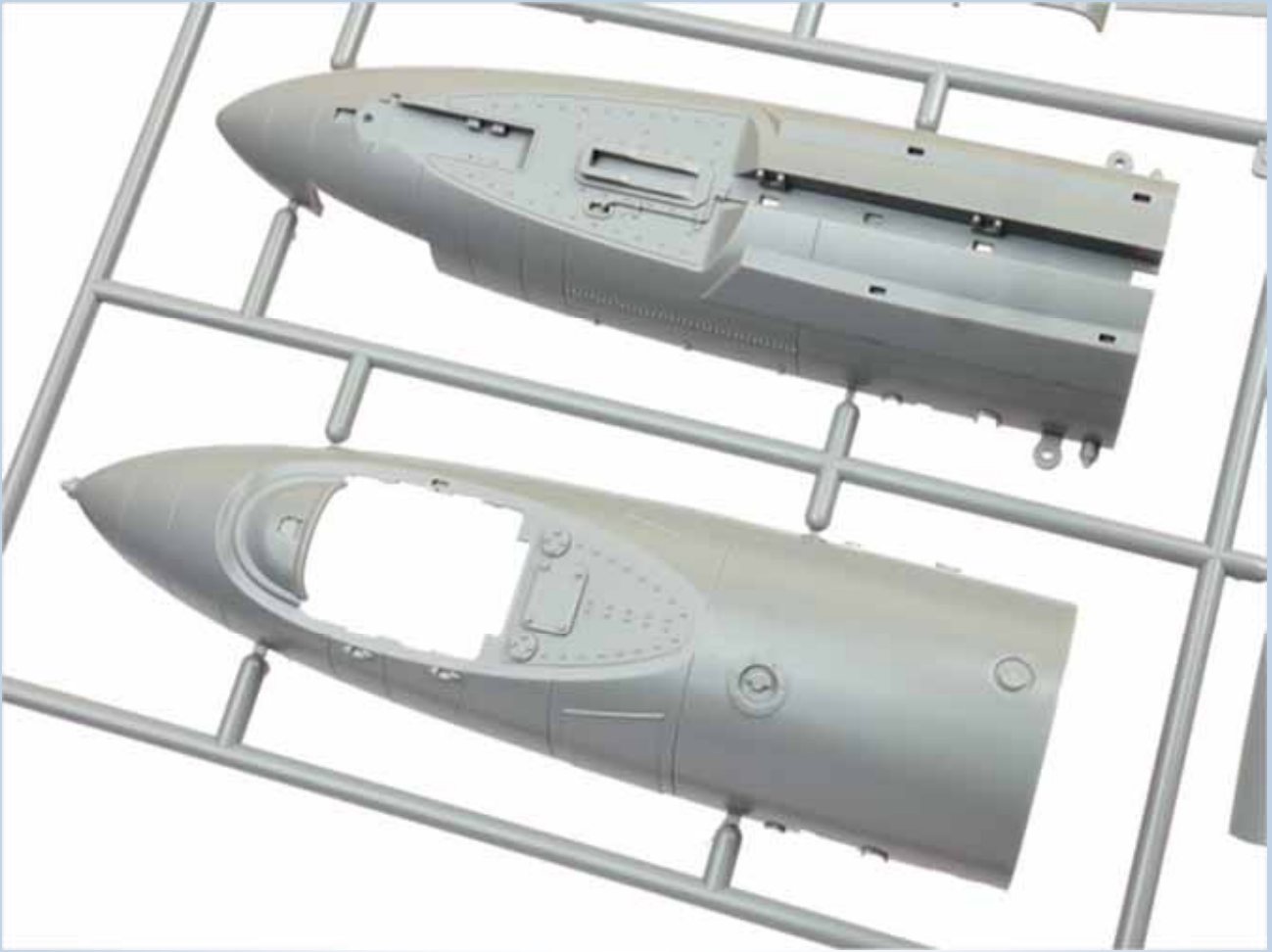
The wood decals for the Wings/Tailplanes.
(Again, NOT in the kit itself.)



The research and care that has gone into this kit is phenomenal, and I understand why Das Werk's 1/35th Panzers are so well thought of. I hope they will extend this to a range of 1/32 Aircraft. (How about a Focke-Wulf Ta 183, Das Werk? Pretty Please?) Check out the Sprue shots below:



The forwards fuselage and cockpit.



The EF127 rear fuselage...

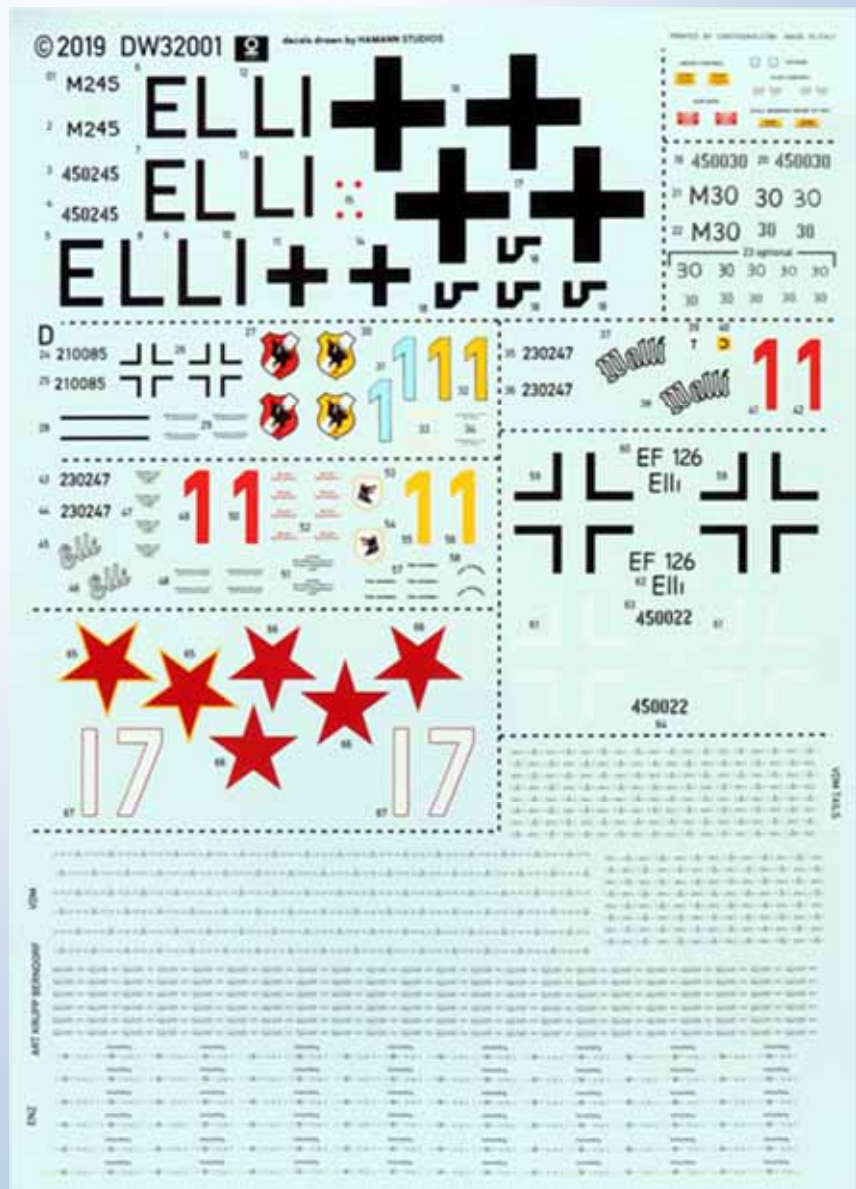


The kit also includes the 4 RATO packs used by the Ef 126 and Ef 127. Each comes in 2 halves with a separate exhaust nozzle. The instructions clear tell you NOT to add the exhausts until the kit is completed as the four nozzles need to be position so the four (2 per side) all have thrust lines parallel to each other and NOT along the fuselage. (the diagrams show this clearly. Full colour painting instructions are given at all stages (I'm looking at you, Border Models and Trumpeter/Hobby Boss!)

Next are the five colour schemes – the kit instructions are much better images, and the Stencil diagram is also in colour. This also shows yet another option – you can build the kit in Landing configuration with the skid extended and wings skids (provided) lowered.



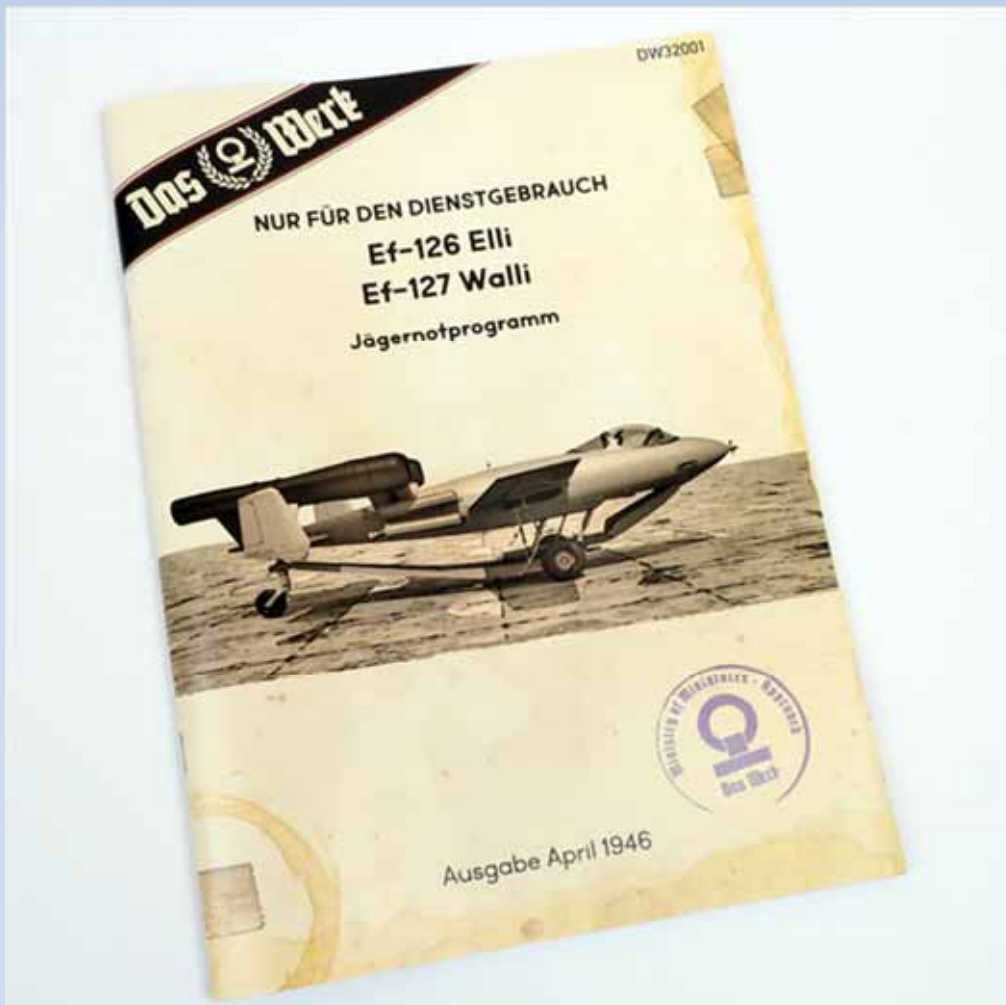
And here is the very big decal sheet: Note the stencils at the bottom....



Some more pages from the Instructions:



The Cover of the Instruction Booklet



And, I nearly forgot, there are the Very good clear parts for the Bubble styled canopy. (the fourth part is a Revi Gunsight).

My conclusion: I want to get a second one to build a Junkers Ef 127 as I decided early on that the twin argus 126 was the Bomb! The kit is a very good kit that fits together very well (Online reviews are unanimous about that!) And the Plethora of marking options is a very good bonus in this scale. I will very probably be ordering at least the pilot figure and maybe the wooden decals also. (Das Werk helpfully have their address and website on the box!)

One final Bonus from buying online – My kit came with the Red Fed 3D instrument panel set included! (Extremely welcome, that is!!)



Out of My Comfort Zone -Inbox Reviews.

By Brett Peacock

I have never in my life made a Dinosaur kit – even though the Tamiya 1/35 Sauroids did seriously tempt me to buy them. But where the heck would I put a Sauropod? (Even in 1/35 it would be HUGE!)



Well, Fujimi have come to the rescue with a much more manageable scale with 3 kits of Cretaceous era Dinosaurs (each separate kits: A T-Rex, a Raptor and this one, a Triceratops) Each kit retails at around \$50.00 in Hobby City currently, the Triceratops at \$49.95. The style and differing colour sprue trees do give a faint “Snap-fit for younger modellers vibe, but I bet some judicious glue and filler can fix that. The figure is poseable to some extent by the use of ball and pin joints but most modellers will want to fix a pose and conceal any joints with putty. The above image is the side of the box and below is the top (with price tag!)



Each and every sprue tree is individually bagged and neatly stacked – The mess in the following pics is my fault!!) The claws on the feet and the toungue are coloured sprue and that tongue is a VERY bright red! (As you can see this is quite a deep box and is quite full of parts.)



Actually there were a surprisingly large number of parts in the kit!



There is no scale for this kit and all instructions are in Japanese language but fortunately all colour calls are for Gunze paints. I am looking forwards to building this.

And also, to building the second kit in my "Out of the Comfort Zone" builds. Also from Hobby City comes a 1/200 IJN Yamato main Turret kit... or should that be kits, because there were 3 of these as well AND there are 2 turrets in the box!. Two different turret kits (one with and one without extra AA guns on the top) and a section of the main superstructure (but not the Bridge



As you can see, the AA guns turrets are in this kit and it includes all the under structure and ammo storage, housed in a Clear fairing for display.



While I did comment of the perceived value in the Triceratops kit, this kit beats it hands down for value – TWO complete turrets, 3x most sprue trees are provided, so you May be able to build a turret without the shield over the guns also (I cannot quite figure that one out as there are only 2 shields in the kit and, like the Triceratops, all instructions are in Japanese!). BTW, I chose this because I have not built a ship of any description since I was about 15. So, way out of my comfort zone too! And that box is deep and filled to the top with individually bagged sprues as well as three bags with multiple sprues within, one very large bag has about 6 sprues in it.





And this is why I suspect that the 3rd turret parts are for this option – without a shield in place....



While I was seriously tempted to get the 1/200 Yamato kit of recent, it was just far too big – this seems to be a far more viable option to try out ship modelling..... Although I do confess to being a bit sad that No PE parts were included in the kit, and no, I'm NOT going to buy a full Yamato set of PE just for the turrets!

It also has a very impressive parts count, making the value exceptional. Oh, and when I bought the two kits together there was a sale discount which meant the total spent was just over \$115.00, instead of almost \$160.00. I think I may get a Lotto ticket this week!



Heavy Hobby 1/35 Cromwell Tracks

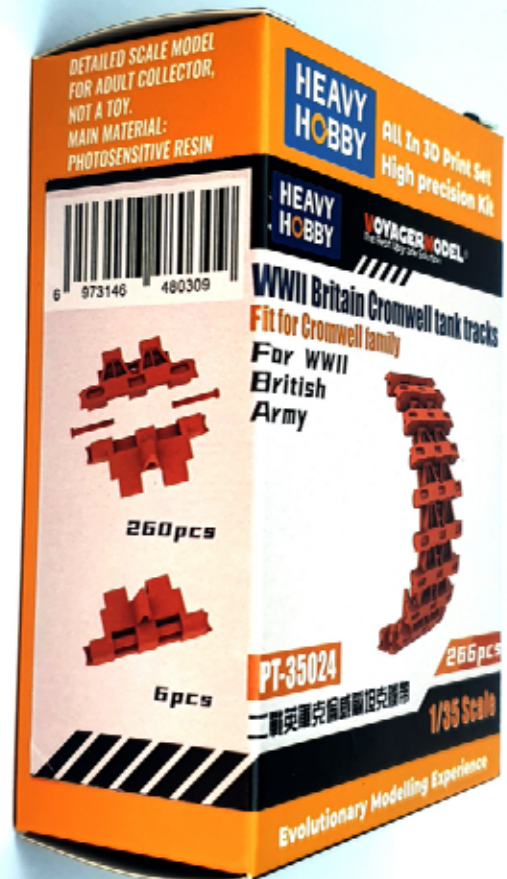
By Lance Whitford

HEAVY HOBBY
HEAVY HOBBY · 2021

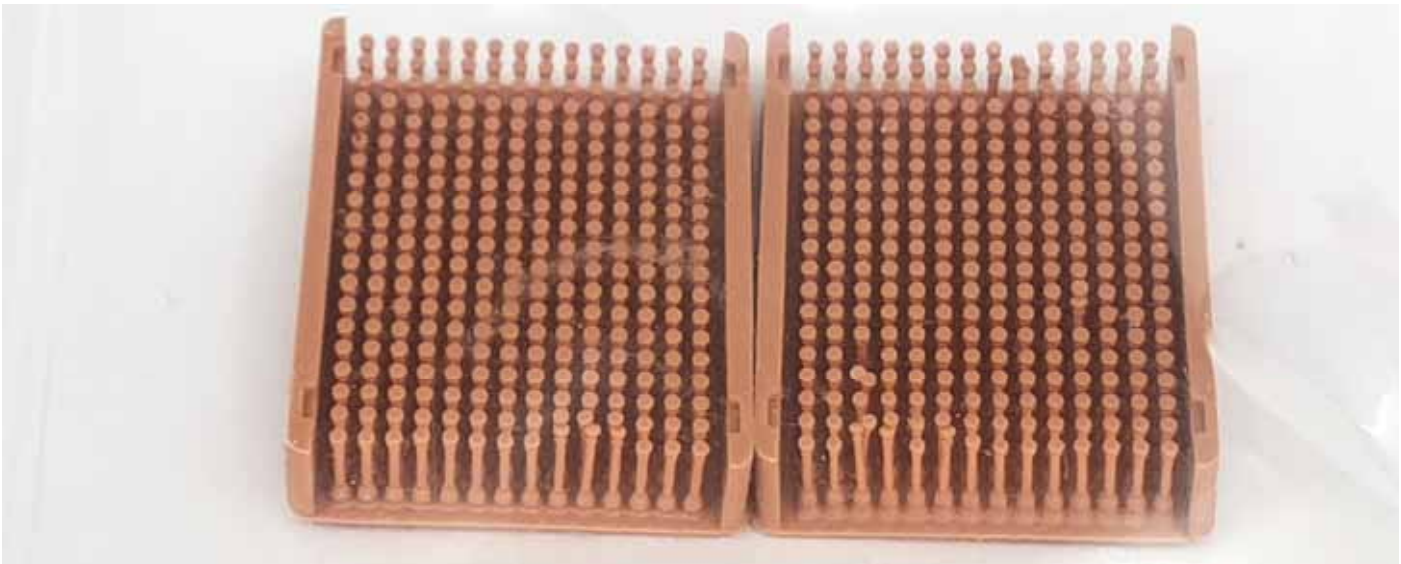


I have a nearly complete Tamiya Cromwell on my shelf of doom along with a more recent Airfix Cromwell VI kit which I recently decided to complete as a pair. I already had one set of after-market tracks from Link Model Workshop (now sold by Hobby Boss) so I needed a second set as neither kit's tracks were inspiring.

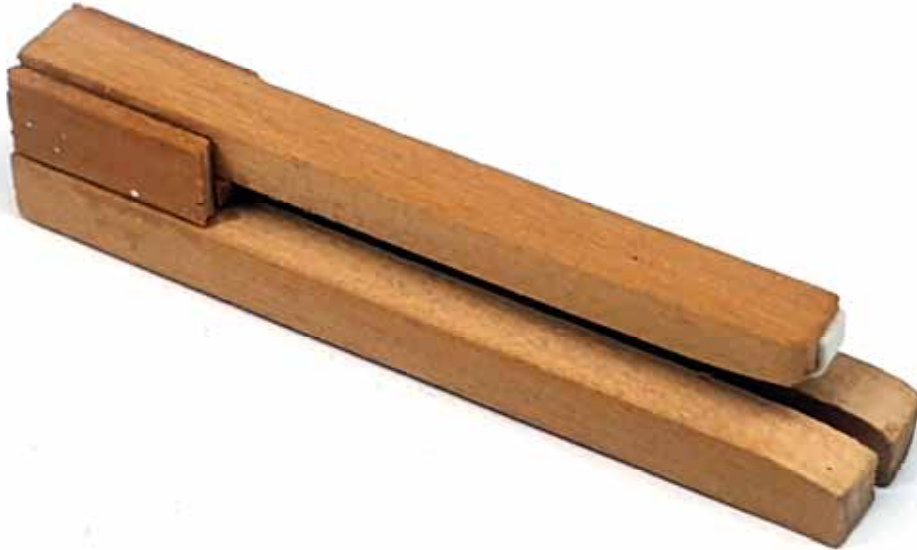
I saw that Heavy Hobby had released a set of 3D printed Cromwell tracks and decided to try these after a favorable experience with Heavy Hobby's Sherman tracks. I ordered a set via Ali Express and it came to around NZ\$56 including GST and shipping. The set provides 266 workable links along with 6 non-workable links for use as stowage. The links are joined with 2 pins that are designed so that the head of the pin forms a firm connection with the hole in the link. The links are ready to use with no cleanup while the pins come on 2 carriers and must be removed one by one. There are 280 pins per carrier so there are a few spares to replace the inevitable one or two devoured by the carpet monster.



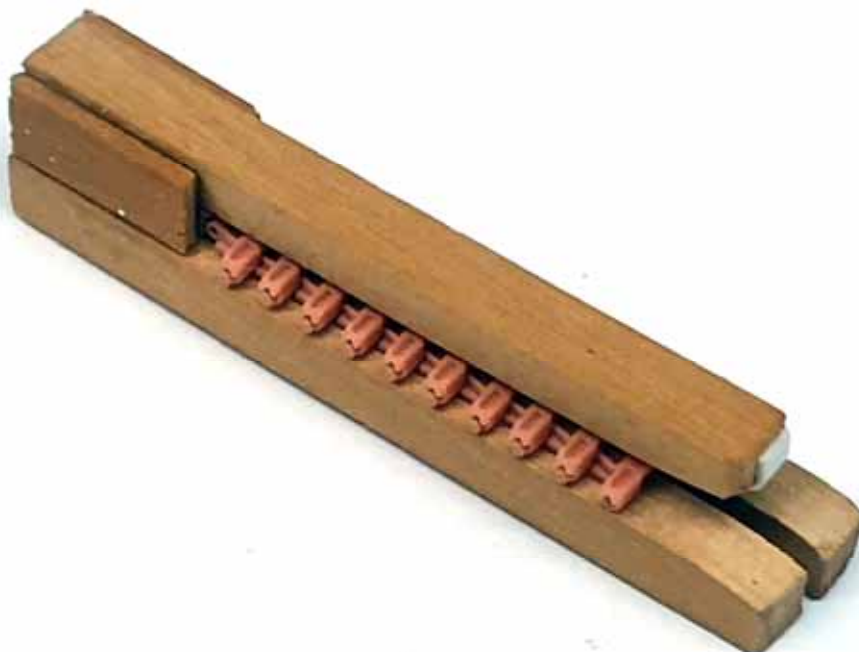
The set is comes packaged in a small cardboard box containing the 3 types of component in their own zip-lock bags.



I could see that a jig would make assembly a lot easier. The parts are small and trying to do this without a third (or fourth) hand would be tedious. I like to assemble tracks in modules of 10 links and then join those together to build up each run so I came up with a simple jig for that. The jig was made from hardwood strip (available at most hobby shops) and took only a few minutes to construct. The ends of the arms were slightly beveled to make the insertion of links easier.



After assembling the first run I decided that the vertical gap between the top and bottom arms of the jig was too big so I superglued a bit of Evergreen strip to the underside of the top run. That's what the white bit in the photo above is I inserted links in one by one, joining as I went. I used a pair of fine angled tweezers to handle the pins. For the most part this went without a hitch. I did find the odd link that did not want to play nicely and a fine drill bit in a pin vise generally sorted those out. There were some pins whose heads would not grab the link properly and I applied a small dab of PVA glue to those to prevent them falling out. This did not affect the movement of the link at all.



I found these photos on the net advertising some second hand Cromwell tracks for sale to restorers. Note that the guide teeth show two variations of lightening holes in the guide teeth, triangular and circular. Heavy Hobby have provided the triangular type.



Here is a finished section



I checked the tracks with both Tamiya and Airfix sprockets and the fit was perfect.

Below fitted to the Tamiya sprocket



Below the Airfix Sprocket



In conclusion I can thoroughly recommend these tracks for both accuracy and practicality. They will need some careful handling during painting and weathering but that should pose any major problems.

On the Table







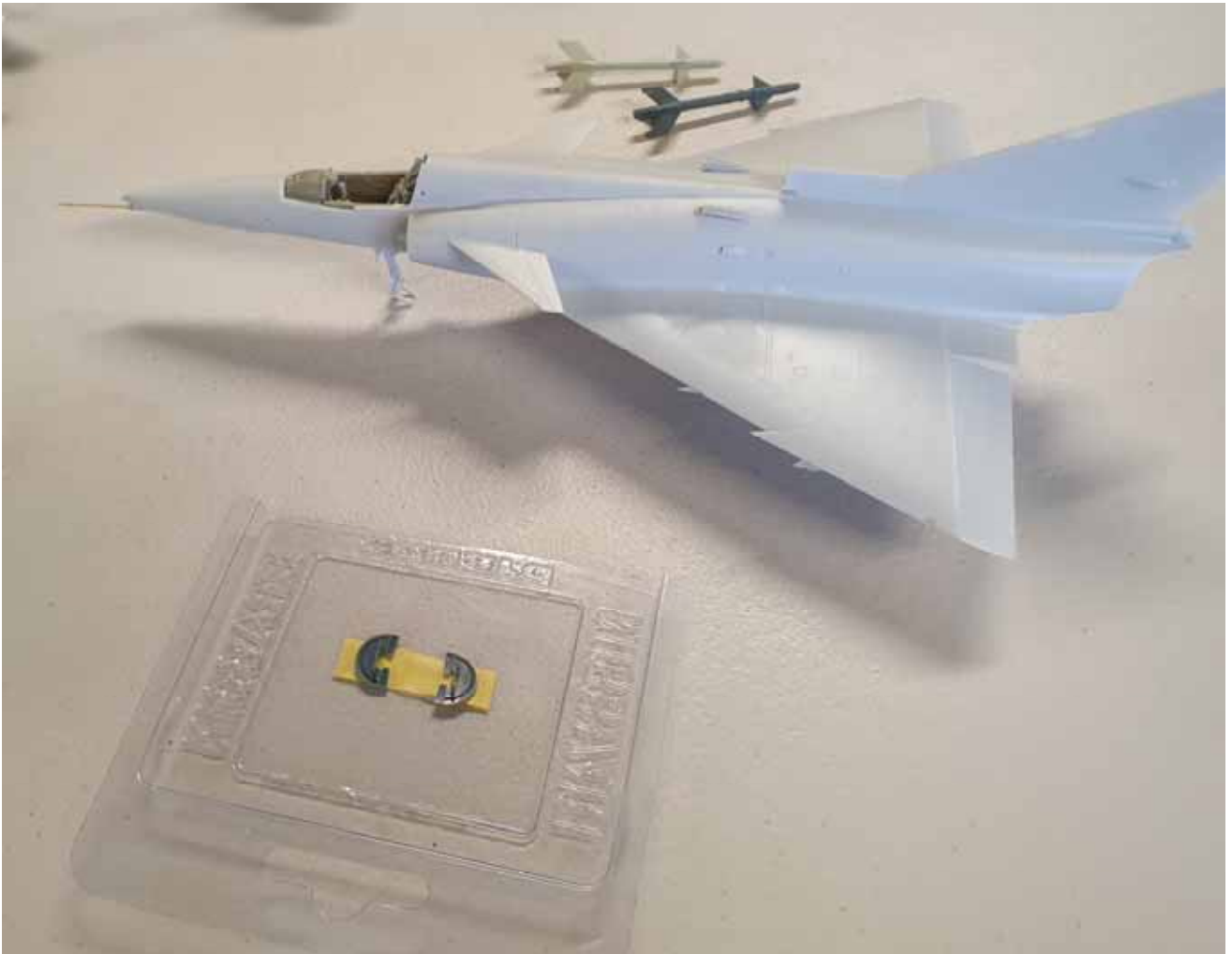














GALLERY

CLUB NIGHT MODELS

Check out our Website gallery for photos taken of models at our monthly meetings

<http://ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com>



And as usual -check out the IPMS Auckland website as we're trying to keep the content a bit more dynamic. We won't be regurgitating content found on other websites but will provide links to sites we think are of interest to members.

