



SCALE-MAIL

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NEXT MEETING

SEPTEMBER

7.30pm
Tuesday 15th September
Leys Institute (upstairs)
20 Saint Marys Road
Ponsonby

COMMITTEE

Chairman - Mark Robson	Craig Sargent
Secretary - John Swarbrick	Lance Whitford
Treasurer - Barry Kelloway	Henry Ludlam
	Peter Mossong
	Peter Foxley

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Link from the IPMS Auckland Website

THE CHAIRMAN'S BIT

Hi everyone,

This Sunday 20th of September we are attending the Captain Musick Air Scouts Aviation Model Gala to show some models and to assist with some kit builds. We need a reasonable variety of display models and we will also do some kit builds with some of the leftover Airfix kits from Model X.

Feel free to bring along a tool kit and project of your own if you just want to model and chat.

Location; Captain Musick Air Scout Den, 64 Pigeon Mountain Road, Half Moon Bay, Auckland.

Time; 11am to 3pm.

We don't need people to necessarily be there the whole time, even a couple of hours will be useful.

We will confirm a roster at the meeting this week.

Cheers

Mark Robson

BULLETIN BOARD

EVENTS THIS MONTH & SEPTEMBER CLUB NIGHT NOTES

Practical Session this month - Weathering

Washes, Streaks, Dribbles and other assorted grime. At this meeting we will continue our practical session with a discussion on weathering techniques that are applied to models after the main painting and (often) decalling is done. Bring along examples of both your completed work and part finished kits that show your tips and techniques.

This could include the use of acrylics, enamels, oils, pastels and real dirt and grime; whatever you use that you think the rest of us might be interested in!

Model of the Year

The committee has decided after consultation with the wider group to have 3 awards this year, over 3 separate club nights. There will be awards for Model of the Year, Modeller of the Year and Clubman of the Year.

This month the competition is for Model of the Year, and seeing that this was supposed to happen in May the eligibility criteria are that your model was finished between April of 2014 and April of 2015, and that you are currently a club member. You can join up on Tuesday night if you like and still be eligible. So bring out one or more of your BEST models from that 12-month period, judging will be by the membership as a whole on forms provided.

If 5 or more models are entered in a particular category (eg aircraft, tanks, ships, cars, Sci-fi, Figures etc) then those models will form a separate category for judging and prizegiving, with an overall winner to be decided as well. Points will be calculated on the night by the committee and winners announced before the close of the meeting.

There will be 50.00 Prize Vouchers from Replicant Hobbies for each of the category winners (assuming more than one type of model reaches the minimum of 5 entries) and a 100.00 voucher for the overall winner.

The Modeller of the Year award will be decided in October and the Clubman of the Year in December, in time for seasonal drinks at the Cav as always.

We Need a New Treasurer!

After serving the club admirably Barry Kelleway was resigned from his role as treasurer and from the committee. We need someone to step up and take over this job, as it is not a good idea for the financial purse strings to be in the hands of other office-holders. I think you can trust the current committee members not to abscond to the Riviera on the club's funds but having checks and balances are a good idea.

BULLETIN BOARD

EVENTS THIS MONTH & AUGUST CLUB NIGHT NOTES

To my mind it would not be necessary for this person to be on the committee (though they would be very welcome) if time is an issue, just to be able to handle money for membership fees at meetings and also keep track of the bank statements.

If we don't get a volunteer then we may have to co-opt someone which is always a bit stressful or do what so many clubs and societies are doing and pay an external service provider to run the finances, which would necessitate a fee increase or fund raising of some type, which seems a waste.

Shelf of DOOM! Competition

Remember there are cool voucher prizes from Replicant Hobbies to aim for. If you have progressed one or more of your models since last month then feel free to come along and skate!

We will follow the progress of your rescue this year with interest, and in December there will be prizes awarded by my new business Replicant Hobbies (based in Whangarei):

Oldest Shelf of Doom kit rescued:	\$50.00 Replicant Hobbies voucher
Best Improvement of a Shelf of Doom kit from the state in which was presented this month and the end result:	\$50.00 Replicant Hobbies Voucher
Best Overall Shelf of Doom Result:	\$100.00 Replicant Hobbies voucher.

“The Monthly Guru”

Once again one experienced modeller will be wearing a bright yellow cap indicating that he is happy to answer any questions you might have on tools and techniques, or find the man who can.

Cheers

Mark

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

12 Kent St Newmarket
Auckland
p: 09 520 1236
10% on kits

Stoker Models

Cnr Market Rd & Gt South Rd
Auckland
p: 09 520 1737
10% on kits and modelling supplies

Apix Photographic Supplies

130 New North Rd, Eden Terrace
Auckland
p: 307 3177
10% on memory cards, tripods, and accessories.

Avetek Limited

Gwyn and Christina Avenell
28 Lauren Grove, RD 2, Papakura,
Auckland 2582, New Zealand.
p: +64 (09) 298 4819,
m: +64 (0)27 343 2290
e: aveteknz@gmail.com
www.avetek.co.nz
New Zealand Master Agents for:
Auszac ECO Balsa • Bob Smith Industries
- Cyanoacrylates and Epoxies • Airsail
International Kitsets

TOYWORLD

Toyworld Henderson
56 Railside Rd, Henderson
Toyworld Westgate
1 Fernhill Dve, Westgate

15% Off the normal retail price on:
- All models and modeling accessories
- All Hornby
- All Siku
- All Schleich & Collecta figures and accessories
- All Meccano
- Lego (Excludes Lego Mindstorm's they will be 10% if available as most have already been preordered)

(Note: not in conjunction with any other promotion)

Capital Books

110 Featherston Street
Wellington
<http://www.capitalbooks.co.nz>

10% off most items on presentation of IPMS Auckland Membership Card. CB has a list of current IPMS Auckland members for internet purchases.

Merv Smith Hobbies

27 Davis Crescent
Newmarket
Auckland

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



Avetek Limited

BULLETIN BOARD

Build The Same Kit 2015 Challenge

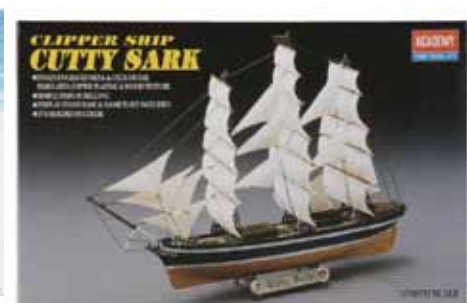
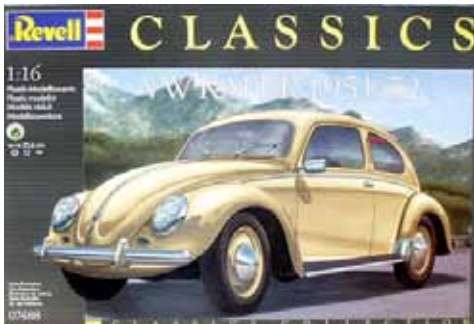
So after some debate on club night last month, the Build the Same Kit challenge has become a Build the Same Kits challenge! The options are:

- BAe Hawk / Folland Gnat (or both - knock yourself out)
- Anything from the VW family.
- Any maritime subject

And the TRIFECTA - the TRIFECTA is a new idea. This year it is proposed that the club offers 3 - yes count them 3 - Build The Same Kit challenges. An Aircraft, A Vehicle, and A Maritime subject with winners' prizes of \$50 and runners' up prizes of \$25 for each category.

PLUS

A major prize of \$100 is on offer for the winner of the Trifecta, the modeller who has built the best 3 models in the BSK competition. One model must be from each category.



BULLETIN BOARD

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBS ***** 2015/16 DUE *****

Subs for 2015/16 are well overdue - see below for club account details or see the club secretary at the next club meeting.

Annual Membership Fees

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 details so we know who has paid.

Wargamers Wanted!

Steve has contacted the club interested in anyone who wargames in World War II, specifically in 1/72 or 1/76 scale. If you'd like to get in touch, email Steve: godcorp@xtra.co.nz



EVENTS

CLUB NIGHT EVENTS

September 15th 2015 - IPMS Auckland Club Night

October 22nd 2015 - IPMS Auckland Club Night

November 15th 2015 - IPMS Auckland Club Night

MODELLING EVENTS

2015 IPMS NZ National Competition:

10th - 11th October, 2015

Westpac Bowls Stadium
38 Tahuna Road
Dunedin

COLLECTORS TOY & MODEL FAIR

Saturday 26th September, 2015

Hobbies Fair
Freeman's Bay Community Hall
52 Hepburn Road
Auckland

11.00am to 3.00pm
Entry: \$5 per adult

For future information on Collectors Fairs, Hobbies Expo's, Swapmeet etc.

Visit their web-page:
www.aucklandhobbyfair.wordpress.com

ALWAYS CHECK TO CONFIRM FOR DATES AND TIMES OF THE EVENT

Star Trekking across the universe...

Aztec Dummies 1/500 J-Prise Aztec Masks

by Rob Willis

Shock horror - I like to build science fiction models and not just planes! Star Trek is my favorite from way back...

Anyway, in 2009 the Star Trek movie series was resurrected, going back to the root story of James T Kirk and the other well-known members of the USS Enterprise and Star Trek universe. Part of the reboot was a newly designed USS Enterprise that was familiar in shape but definitely different from the ships depicted in the TV series and subsequent movies. Being directed by JJ Abrams, the new design is nick-named the JJ-Prise to distinguish it from TOS (the original series), and the refit Enterprise (seen in ST:TMP - Star Trek: The Motion Picture - as the Enterprise in the first movie became known) - a polarising design - some love it, some hate it...

Revell released a 1/500 scale kit (which is of course weird being the scale of something that doesn't exist except in a CGI environment - at least the TV series Enterprise model can be seen in the Smithsonian...) in 2013.

Anyhoo, one major fault of the kit is the lack of markings (either decals or masks) to depict the complicated hull plating pattern known as Aztec pattern or plating seen on most 'Federation' Starships...

I spent some time looking for an option to correct this. There was rumours a year or two ago of a company producing decal sheets for this kit similar to the sheets supplied for the Polar Lights Enterprise some of you may have seen John Darlington build last year.

However that came to nothing. So step up Aztec Dummy - a company that makes masks for various sci-fi topics, particularly Star Trek subjects. The most common mask being.... Aztec pattern!



Above: the Revell kit released in 2013



Above: the kit built out of the box



Above: an example of the hull Aztec pattern

Six sheets of vinyl masks are included in the masking set along with 4 pages of instructions and reference to a number of online resources including step-by-step YouTube clips of masking process.

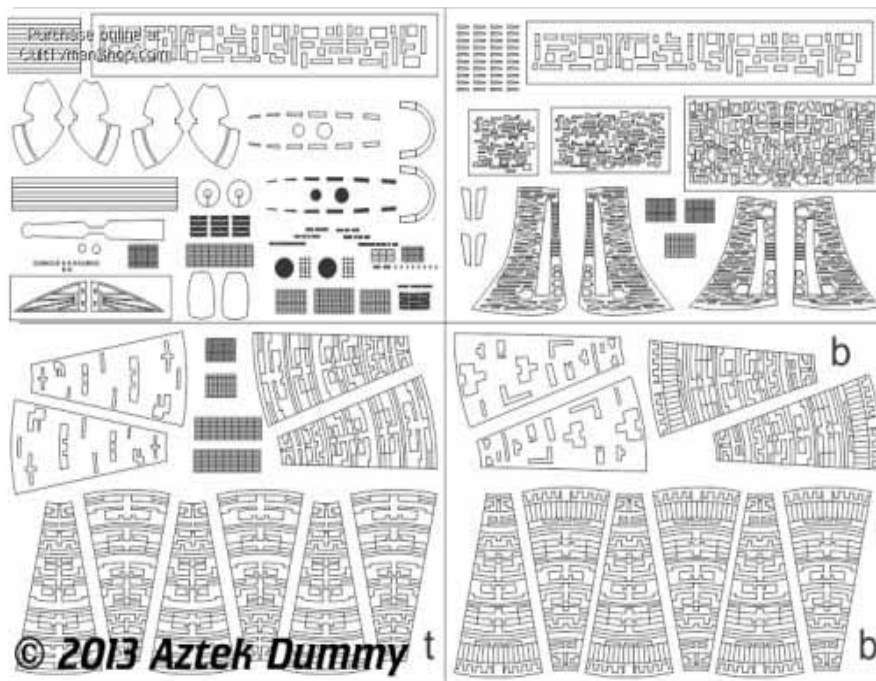
The masks are a combination of pattern and cover - by that I mean some masks are stuck onto the model to cover the previous colour layer, with the top coat sprayed as per a normal mask. The other mask is more of a moving template - spray one colour, move the mask slightly offset, spray a slightly different shade of the original colour, and so on until the desired effect has been reached. Very similar to the mottle masks used on Luftwaffe and Italian aircraft. There are no guidelines or reference for this process, leaving it up to the individual modellers taste.

The sheer number of masks and the size of the kit (which measures around 23" long) will make this a tricky build - not to mention that someone suggested I add lights to it! My only reservation about the masks is the vinyl material used - I've used similar masks in the past and they don't always adhere well to a curved surface.

As I'm packing up all my modelling gear in preparation for a room renovation, plus the 30-40 already started kits in the queue, it might be some time before I get around to getting this built.... I guess though I better not leave it too long in case the masks don't survive months (if not years) in storage....

Cheers

Rob



Above: a few sheets from the extensive masking set



Above and below: an example of the masking in progress



BLAST FROM THE PAST

Club Newsletter - March 1999

Theme Night: "Winter Blues"

With winter fast approaching, and all those long awaited projects springing to the fore to fill in the longer, colder nights, it was decided a theme night was in order. Bring along any model, finished or not, which has, or will have, blue somewhere in it. Be as obscure as you like. The idea is to get kits on the table to see what is being/has been built. The Chairman has arranged an appropriate prize in keeping with the theme to go to the model he feels most deserving - not necessarily the best entry.

There will be a voucher as a door prize again this month. Remember you must be a current member and have subs paid to be in to win. Register by presenting your ID or subs receipt when you arrive at the meeting.

The Editor's Desk

Once again the month has passed and it is time to put fingers to keyboard and get another newsletter out. Thanks to all those who provided positive feedback on the first issue, good to see it gets read.

Melbourne's Avalon Airshow went off with a bang (literally) and proved to be a successful model and reference shelf filler for myself and wardrobe filler for my other half. I think our bags were quite a few kilograms heavier coming back, most of that thanks to the many books I bought for reference material.

As Avalon was a trade show, as well as an airshow, almost every conceivable piece of hardware was on display and/or sale; from the Lockheed C-130J to the BAe Typhoon (Eurofighter), most current targeting/navigation pods, weapons (air-to-air and air-to-ground), ECM pods, radars, fighters, transports, bombers, biz jets, light planes, passenger airliners, you name it and it was probably there (or represented there) - in all, a modern aircraft modellers dream. Highlights for myself had to have been the inclusion of a pair of F-16Cs, a pair of F-15Cs, an AH-1W Cobra and an AH-64D Longbow Apache.

Also on show was the ubiquitous South African Denel/BAe Rooivalk (RedHawk). The only real disappointment would have had to have been the number of Soviet aircraft in attendance i.e. none.



It has been pointed out to me that the e-mail version of the newsletter is also readable using Office 95, the only downside being that the Internet website links will not work - this is because the HTML language used for the Internet is not supported by Office 95. No reason you can't enter those addresses manually though. At the end of the newsletter I have included (on request

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of the committee) a form for members to fill out to indicate who would like a hard-copy version and who would like an e-mail version. Please could everyone fill these out (whether you want e-mail or not) and return them on club night. This will help to update our mailing list.

Craig.

The Chairman's Bit

First up a big thanks to ModelAir for last months door prize of a \$20 voucher, which was won by Barry Burton. We will be doing it again this month (see Upcoming Events - Ed.). Well, with only 6 weeks to go to the IPMS Nationals, I hope everyone's modelling is progressing on schedule, as the beers are already in the fridge chilling. We have also successfully moved house (well, almost, if you don't count the boxes everywhere). Please note the change to my phone number.

Kevin.

Supermodel 1:72 Aermacchi MB-339A by Craig Sargent

Whilst on my sojourn to the Avalon Airshow, I managed to pick up this new kit of the latest product from the Aermacchi stables. Supermodel's kit features 72 parts (3 clear, 4 not used) moulded in light grey plastic with fine raised panel lines. The pictorial instructions feature six steps of assembly, markings details and a parts layout diagram.



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Assembly begins with the cockpit area. The cockpit consists of a pair of 3-part ejection seats, a cockpit tub, two instrument panels and two control columns. There is little room for the required nose weight, so replacing the kit's ejection seats with cast-metal aftermarket items could help keep your MB-339 from tail-sitting.

The model has a reasonably complete stores mix (2 x underwing drop tanks, 2 x Matra rocket pods, old and new style tip tanks and a gun pod). The only version that uses the large round tip tanks is the JPATS version (also required for an RNZAF aircraft); the other using the slimmer ovoid shaped tanks. The underfuselage speed brake is moulded as a separate piece.

For those who would like to convert it to an RNZAF "Macchi", this would be a relatively simple task, mainly a new nose with landing light, a pair of HUDs, formation lights, and the tail fin ECM fairings (which in RNZAF aircraft are empty anyway), with a few small antenna around the nose and fuselage dorsal area to be added. Also, it may be of interest to know that the RNZAF Macchis were originally going to receive clearance for the AIM-9 Sidewinder and the AGM-65 Maverick and I have seen the aircraft, while I was in Italy, carrying these stores.

The kit's beautifully printed decals provide stencilling, and cockpit instrument panels, as well as markings for:

Scuolo Volo Basico Iniziale
Aviogetti, AMI, Italian Air Force,
M.M.54493, 1982

61a Brigata Aerea, AMI, Italian
Air Force, M.M.54509, 1994

1a Escuadrilla de Ataque, 4a
Escuadrilla Aeronaval, Argentine
Naval Air Force, 1982

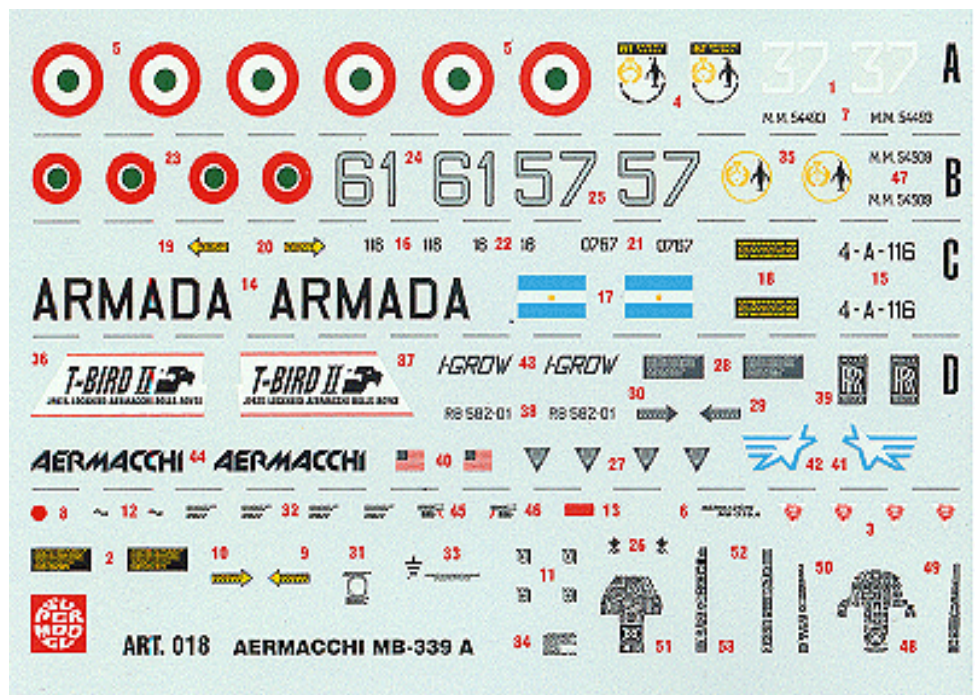
"T-BIRD" Aircraft candidate for
JPATS program 1994

Decals are thin and semi-gloss,
the only obvious problem being
the green on the small Italian
roundels is out-of-register.

Painting instructions are given in
four sets of 3-view drawings and

colours are called out in F.S.595 numbers. Initially I had intended do the conversion to an RNZAF MB-339CB (NZ6460), which I spent 6 months rebuilding after it's wheels-up crash and subsequent repair in Italy. However, after seeing the attractive JPATS markings, this is the option I have decided I will be building.

The kit has also been released as the MB-339K single-seat fighter version. Be warned, this kit wasn't cheap -my wallet was AUD\$28.50 lighter for it. I will bring the kit to this months meeting for all those interested to peruse.



BLAST FROM THE PAST

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Pre-Nationals Blues

Is anyone else having trouble getting anything done for the Nationals? From a few brief conversations it seems that I am not the only one having difficulty putting knife to plastic. For myself I can say that I am truly not a summer modeller. Light nights are for doing stuff outside, and my personal situation at work and at home has prevented much in the way of late night workbench activity for a while. This raises the question "why do we have the Nationals at the end of the summer?". I wish I had suggested to the Committee last year that we have the meeting at Labour weekend. This would have obviated the complaints about not having the competition at Easter, while allowing a few months of winter evenings for manufacture. Apparently years ago the Nationals were held in the spring, and I for one would support a return to the same timing.

On a more hopeful note, I am looking forward to seeing many completed models on the tables, and a whole weekend of deep modelling discussions. I am sure I am not alone in saying that one of my greatest pleasures in life is looking at finished models to any reasonable standard. Observing other people's efforts always inspires me to greater exertions on my own projects. This is tempered by that peculiar feeling one gets when another modeller has completed a project that has been in one's mind for a while; you know, when some brave soul with more time and gumption than you, does the slap up job on an old Frog kit, or an Airfix relic, that you had hoped to achieve in this lifetime. Of course you are glad that someone has done it, but also slightly peeved that they got there before you. Fortunately most of us have more pie-in-the-sky projects echoing in our skulls than a horde of modellers could ever complete, so we will never see every nutty idea brought to fruition.

Thoughts On The Demise Of Fresh Air

I though I should mention that the company (Fresh Air Ltd) that I and a partner started, to market niche modelling products, will be going into recess at the end of March. This will save me telling each interested party individually. It has been an interesting exercise, but rather an expensive one. I had severely underestimated the amount of time it would take just to process orders and keep up to date with the tax department documentation. Combined with a busy work life, it meant that I was spending time on paperwork that I would rather have spent on making models. If anyone is contemplating trying the same sort of business, let me bend your ear over a beer to let you know some of the pitfalls. I have no regrets about trying, (what is that cliché about it being better to have tried and failed...?). And as I said all along, I will at least end up with a collection of nice stuff to put in the wardrobe, though what I am going to do with eight 1/48th Skyraider cockpit sets I don't know.

On the same note there certainly seems to have been some attrition in the retail modelling world recently. One could say that Auckland is over-blessed with good model shops compared to many international cities, but it is still a shame to see anyone go under. Those in the trade will tell you it is a very fickle business. Modellers world-wide are a finicky bunch, and on the whole very tight with our money. The temptation to order via mail order is always there, but I really try to support my local shop, because on Sunday afternoon when I run out of FS XXXXX, or cockpit green, it is a great reassurance to know that all I have to do is nip up the road. Try that via the Internet!

Recent Releases

I am rapidly losing interest in rec.models.scale so I am not as au fait with the latest release announcements as I could be. Certainly it seems Tamiya are bent on supporting 1/72nd scale, and have confirmed that they will be downscaling their He 219. A Swordfish in the smaller scale will be very

BLAST FROM THE PAST

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welcome I'm sure, and if the rumours of a Blenheim and SM79 are true (the Blenheim and a Do-335 have been confirmed apparently - Ed), we could be in for a real treat. Their Skyray is a gem, though they have persisted with that barmy concept of applying the blue spine/fin and yellow stars scheme as a decal sheet. I think that is the only thing stopping me slamming it together as an OOB (out-of-the-box) project for the Nats. The latest SAMI had a review of the Revellogram Ju 52 which looks very impressive, but I can't see many modellers buying more than one. The Classic Airframes Whirlwind seems to be a good one, and will probably result in more completed kits than the excellent Cooper Details Vac, (by the way, has anyone got the CD kit that they would like to sell?).

The new Academy Typhoon is a little cracker. Having laid it up against the incomparable Arthur Bentley's plans from SM November 1975 I can say that it is nearly spot on. The only worry I can see is that the lower surface of the radiator tub looks too flat, but I haven't had a good look at the photos. They did not include the bigger tailplane option but do offer 2 props and spinners. The exhausts don't look right, but I can't decide quite why. If Academy want to continue through a line of British subjects in the same style I can suggest a host of subjects, viz. Whirlwind, Hampden, Sea Fury, Hornet, Seahawk, Sea Vixen, Canberra, Hunter, Lightning, etc, need I go on? How come I can select from 5 or 6 decent 1/72 Sturmoviks but not one decent Lightning? Whoops, better get off my soapbox!

Editing

On the subject of the Skyray I have just received the F4D publication in Steve Ginter's Naval Fighters series. As with many in this stable it is the best publication around, (the colour photo on the back with a line up of machines is worth the price alone) but contains an infuriating number of layout, grammar and spelling errors. I wish Mr Ginter no ill as he throws light on a subject area that is widely ignored but I wish he would get someone to edit his text. My wife is an editor in a major publisher and I have been horrified at the state in which books arrive from their writers. Editors are unsung in the book world but without them we would be left with very disorganised reading. Steve Ginter is obviously an individualist, and may not care about the errors, but his work could certainly do with a once over before committing to print.

By the way many of the photos show very well worn Skyrays indeed. The generally held principle that carrier aircraft are impossible to keep clean seems to hold true, so that even the most spectacular colour schemes look tired and worn, great for weathering on a model!

Hope everyone has an enjoyable meeting in March, I will be away on my first holiday for over a year. I for one enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere that the Prez's new room layout engendered.

Cheers,
Mark Robson

VIGGEN

Tarangus - 1/48 Saab JA-37 Viggen
by Mark Robson



Introduction

The Swedes are justifiably proud of their aviation industry. They are the smallest country in the world that has built state of the art aeroplanes for over 50 years, and although this line has likely reached a conclusion with the Gripen the mighty Viggen remains a potent aviation icon.

There is still one flying with a heritage team in Europe and I would love to see it fly before I die!

I first built a Viggen in the form of the Airfix 1/72 example when I was about 8 and although that kit was good for its time it has long been obsolete. In fact it is a mystery to me and many others that the newest 1/72 kit available is the Heller one from the 70s. Come on Hasegawa!

Last year the small Swedish firm of Tarangus, which is basically one Swedish enthusiast (Max Nykvist of Rebell Hobby) released the first new Viggen kit since the Esci 1/48th example of the 80s. Max commissions Special Hobby to make kits for him and this one represents a real step up in moulding quality from this Czech firm.

Building Notes

This kit has already featured on multiple websites and magazines so I won't bore you with a blow-by-blow account of the build so far. Herewith is a list of improvements that can be made to the kit.

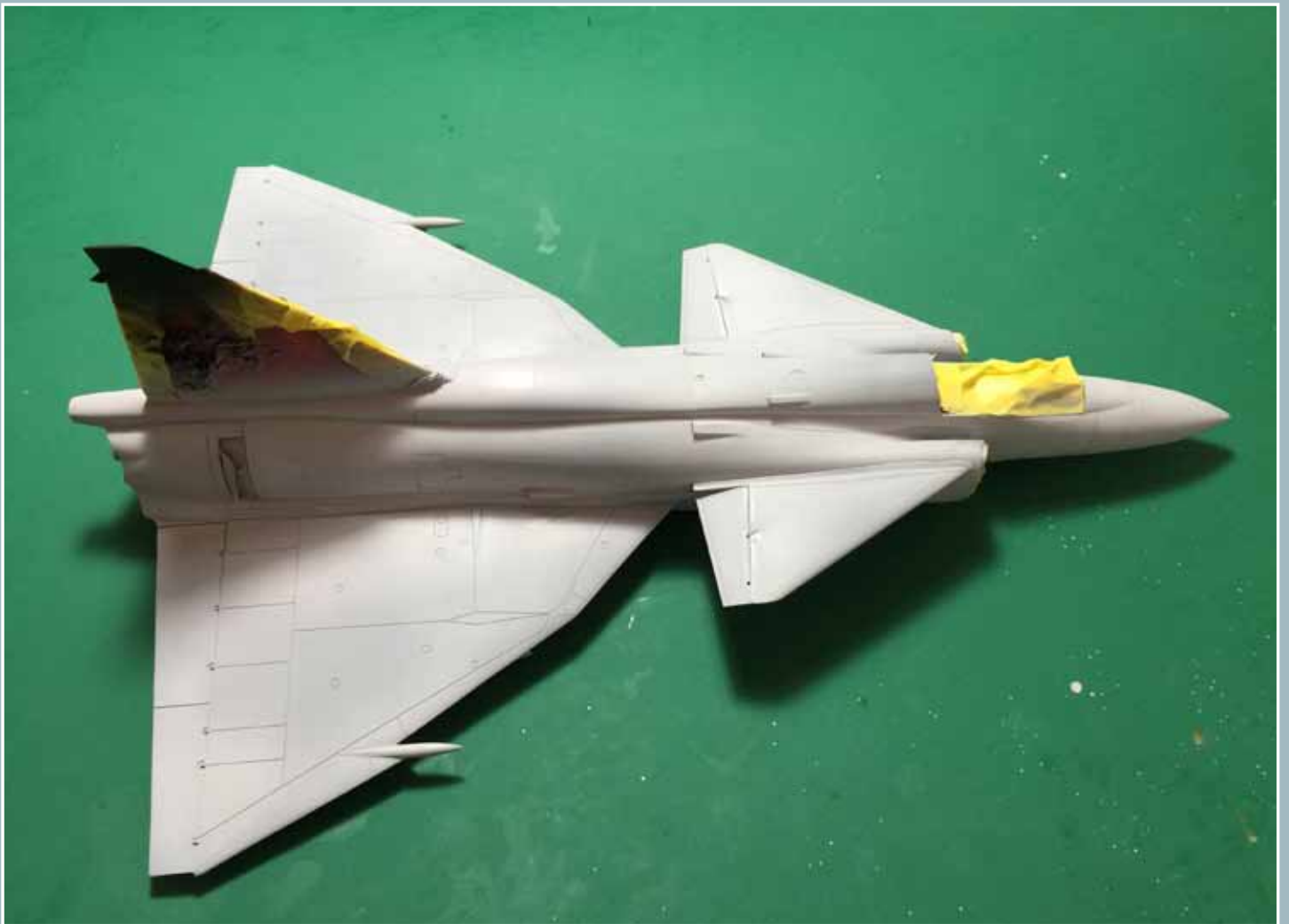
Please note that these comments are all my opinion only, though they pretty much all accord with at

least one other published review of the kit.

Interestingly, not one of the changes listed below would be noticed by more than one in a hundred modellers looking at the model. So if you just want to build this impressive kit out of the box and enjoy it then feel free!

(1) The leading edge of the fin and fin cap (an aerial in fact) are incorrectly shaped for the JA Viggen (which is the fighter version). I have used a resin replacement from Maestro Models (also owned by Max of Rebell!) but this has its own issues so unless you are a perfectionist I would say just use what comes in the box.

(2) The leading edge of the long stores pylon under each wing is not angled correctly. I didn't



notice this until it was pointed out elsewhere. It does not take long to fix with some plastic card and superglue.

(3) The control surfaces (elevons? flaperons?) on the canards are scribed at an incorrect place and angle. Again this would hardly be noticeable, but as these always drooped at rest it is worthwhile cutting them and gluing them at the correct angle of both droop and position in relationship to the fuselage. There is also a second vortex generator on the upper surface of the canard on each side. Hardly anyone has noticed this, but it only takes a few minutes to scratch build if you have a mind to.

(4) The Viggen has a ram air turbine (RAT) which opens at some point in the landing sequence and stays open until the plane is safely

in the air again. This is moulded closed on this kit (and every other one) and the completist will want to open this up. I bought the Maestro Models detail part in resin for this but it seems overscale so I only used parts of it. Honestly no-one would ever know if you just left it closed.

(5) Behind each of the main wheel bays on the underside there is a small (almost) triangular shaped recess. This is apparently a moulding fantasy brought about by a particular photograph on the Internet where these flush panels (as they should be) were painted with a black undercoat. I filled these in with plastic card which took about 20 minutes.

(6) Because the kit is also being issued as the AJ37 (the attack version) it supplies both forms of

wing-mounted identification lights. The ones on the leading edge should be fitted then cleaned up and painted over for the JA37 as they were replaced by ones set into the wing tips (which are supplied).

(7) Around the thrust reverser assembly there is a spurious moulded "rectangle" which is proud of the surface and should be removed as it is not there on the real plane. Do this before you glue everything together!

(8) The cockpit is fair but could be improved by the usual aftermarket parts. I have just used a seat from Pilot Replicas which is very nice but needs radical cutting down to fit the cockpit (as does the one supplied by Maestro).

(9) Probably the only significant legitimate gripe about the kit is the paucity of weapons supplied. You only get the ubiquitous under-fuselage tank. It is easy enough to supply aftermarket Sidewinders and Skyflashes (the latter is the UK-built AIM7) but the pylons are a bit tricky to find. I think there should have been some applicable stores in the kit.

(10) The canopy is the not the clearest but apparently comes up well under a coat of Future which I am about to try.

Many of the features that characterize the fighter Viggen (small fuselage extension, cannon pod which is beautifully moulded and the extra flap actuators) are correctly moulded for the first time ever. It is admirable that these

small but subtle details have been catered for by the engineering of the kit which is actually very clever.

The surface detail is good but there is a slightly pebbly feel to some of the underside which takes a small amount of time to rub down, or could be ignored altogether as these aircraft were dirty underneath and there is usually much weathering to be added unless you are depicting an aircraft fresh from repaint.

My kit will be finished in the 2 greys scheme with the all-red fin and black Indian rider courtesy of Two Bobs Decals and I am confidently predicting will be finished for the September meeting.

The AJ 37 attack Viggens have been issued under the Special Hobby label and are now in the country courtesy of Replicant Hobbies, and will be available at Modelair shortly for Auckland modellers.

Cheers

Mark Robson

Disclosure; Mark is the owner of Replicant Hobbies (in Whangarei) which is an importer and distributor of Tarangus products



Online Trading

Ever bought goods online from hobby shops locally or offshore?
Share your experiences with good/bad traders here.

*** A repeat of a series of articles from 2013 about buying online, including a few updates. ***



www.aviationmegastore.com

Another lean month of buying - probably a good thing really considering the mountain of kits I have to build. However I have a few kits that I want to do in markings other than provided in the box and was recently struck by a particularly nice build of a 1/48th F-5A in markings of the Royal Netherlands Air Force. The markings were from Dutch Decals (err, obviously...) but proved to be hard to find. I scoured all the common online suppliers, including a few decal specialists. Even checking Dutch Decals (www.dutchdecal.nl) themselves showed the sheet I wanted as being out of production.

One of the sites I tried was the Aviation Megastore based in the Netherlands. I've bought from these guys before, only decals though.... the reason being as although the prices of items seem reasonable, the price leaps significantly as soon as the site adds postage. Even the smallest item like a resin detail set seems to have a starting price of around € 35 for shipping to NZ - an example is a 1/48 Hurricane detail set - 2 exhausts, 2 spinners and 3 prop blades - € 9 (\$15) for the item - add shipping and the price leaps to € 45 (about \$75) !!

However, flat items like decals cost a few euros to post so make it worth checking the site out. I have noticed that the postage takes a while to jump up to the next price bracket so perhaps adding items up to a certain value would make it worthwhile, but that would have to be your call on what that value is....

So anyway I logged in with an account I had created many months ago, searched for my item, added it to the cart, proceeded to the checkout, paid by PayPal. Immediately I had an email confirming my order. The following day I received an email confirming the order had been picked and shipped.

About 8 days later a flat, well-packed (packed between two sheets of stiff cardboard) decal sheet arrived in my mailbox. I think all up including p&p it came to \$20 - not too bad considering there are three options on the sheet, only one of which I would need to source RNLAf roundels for.

So the Aviation Megastore - has a fantastic range of product, easy to use web site for ordering and payment - you just have to be careful about the cost of postage to justify your purchases....

Cheers

Rob



GALLERY

ON THE TABLE - JUNE 2015 CLUB NIGHT

This month we're trying something a little different with the gallery.

Instead of trying to squeeze the photographs from Club Night onto these pages, we've decided to try a new gallery format on the clubs website. This means larger images with higher resolution - so you can see all those previously unnoticed finger-prints in hi-def.....

So, for your viewing pleasure, please visit the gallery pages for 2015 on the website or get there by following this link:

http://ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com/galleries_2015.html

LAST WORDS

RAF BRISTOL BLENHEIM MK.IV



Fancy a 1/32 Bristol Blenheim? AviaReplica (a sister company of AviaLogs) is producing a 1/32 Bristol Blenheim Mk IV and Fairchild Bolingbroke Mk IV. The kits will be resin, metal and plastic. The unique thing about these kits is that they will be made based on demand from purchasers - basically you subscribe and pay for half the kit, once they have 75 orders, they make the kit and you pay the remainder - sort of a crowd-funded model. For more info, check their website out here:
<http://www.aviareplica.com/index.php/blenheim-bolingbroke-1-32>

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.

Also remember to check out the 'On the Table' galleries which will now be on the website only.

...and again, a reminder that if you have anything to contribute, be it images of an event you went to, a model you're building or fancy reviewing, something you've bought online or anything else even remotely modelling related you think may interest the rest of the club, send it through to me at: jaxbw@orcon.net.nz or have a chat with me at Club Night.

Cheers
Rob

