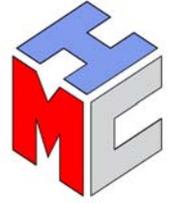




"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine



www.sticky-fingers.org.uk

Issue 124 September 2014

Next month - October 2014 - Modelling Evening

Next month – October 2014 – Modelling Evening	1
Peters Prattling	1
Next Month – October	1
Firepower – Royal Artillery Museum – Woolwich Arsenal	1
Airfix Factory Sale – 27 th & 28 th September	2
Forthcoming Shows in 2014.....	2
Robin’s “Ruminations”	3
Wrighty’s “References”	4
WrySpy Temporary Shutdown	4
The Final Countdown	5
Time The Final Enemy	5

Peters Prattling

Next Month – October

We have the next meeting down as a modelling evening, so please bring along something to work on or if you are prepared to “show & tell” something you think might be of use to us all.

Firepower – Royal Artillery Museum – Woolwich Arsenal

<http://firepower.org.uk/>

As it was my birthday towards the end of last month we paid a visit to this museum, we hadn’t gone before as being “south of the river” the location is not always easy to get to by car, but thankfully the DLR has been extended to go out that far now so the journey was much easier. When we arrived we had a few minutes to grab a coffee before the museum staff opened up the other display hall in a building opposite to the main museum. In there were a treasure trove of old cannon, one of which was captured off the Burmese and was very highly decorated. We then went into a 2nd room which was very large and contained most of the tracked or wheeled vehicles on display, including the still in service AS-90, although the one they have is not in operational order as the chassis had cracked after a heavy shunt. How an armoured vehicle like that cracks their chassis I would hate to think!

There are some real oddities too, a tracked vehicle which had 2 big guns on it which were fed from round canisters containing 28 artillery shells each. It was designed in the ‘50s and was supposed to deliver over 60 shells a minute. Unfortunately no-one factored in the reloading time so wasn’t developed further. Another odd one was an artillery piece with a large metal shell over it where the crew would shelter in the event of all out nuclear war. Problem was the shell only protected the head and body area leaving the legs exposed. Great planning/design there chaps!

Whilst mentioning cracked chassis there was also a European/NATO designed self-propelled gun based on the German Leopard tank chassis but with an Italian designed gun turret. Problems with the recoil meant that again the chassis cracked after firing the gun and yet again the design was quietly shelved.

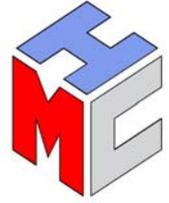
For many with any sort of interest in military history one highlight of the museum would be 2 cannon which are actually Chinese but captured in the Crimea, yes they are the guns from which metal is taken to make the Victoria Cross.

If you are remotely interested in the subject of guns/artillery or the British Army I can recommend a visit to this museum, make sure you take the guided tour over the road but you’ll need to be relatively quick as the site is being sold off to redevelopment as a ballet school in the next year or so.



"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine



www.sticky-fingers.org.uk

Airfix Factory Sale – 27th & 28th September

Factory Shop Weekend Sale!

The last weekend in September

HORNBY
HOBBIES
VISITOR
CENTRE

Great deals
on products
fantastic savings!

Come along to
our two day
clearance event.
Saturday and Sunday
**27th & 28th
September**

Factory Shop open
10am – 4pm

www.hornby.com/visitorcentre | Tel: 01843 233524
 E-mail: visitorcentre@hornby.com
 WESTWOOD | MARGATE | KENT | CT9 4JX
 On the A254 Ramsgate Road, between
 Westwood Cross Shopping Centre and Margate.

Forthcoming Shows in 2014

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.

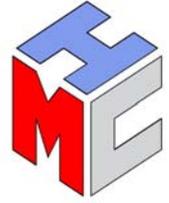
2014	
20 th & 21 st September (Saturday & Sunday)	Maquette Club Opale, Complexe Sportif, Rue de la Mairie, Frethun (near Calais)
21 st September (Sunday)	Wings and Things, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 2PJ
28 th September (Sunday)	Brampton show, St Ives
8 th & 9 th November (Saturday & Sunday)	Scale ModelWorld, Telford
25th October (Saturday)	Gravesham Military Modelling Society Open Day, North West Kent College, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2JJ
7 th December (Sunday)	London Model Show, Islington Business Design Centre, London, N1 0QH
2015	
16 th - 18 th January (Friday – Sunday)	London Model Engineering Exhibition, Alexandra Palace, London
21 st & 22 nd March	Southern Expo

Peter



"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine



www.sticky-fingers.org.uk

Robin's "Ruminations"

Well this month's meeting has certainly come around quickly and as normal it's only Peter's "gentle reminder" that has prompted me to start banging away at my laptops keyboard. Well not much on the modelling front I'm afraid, no surprise there then, I've only got as far as tidying my room up for the umpteenth time to be ready to finish building my A-4, one day, one day! I enjoyed the last month's meeting with the ATC if only that I got the opportunity to blow the dust off of my modelling box. I really enjoy the evenings where the club bring their part built models and model boxes, I find it so interesting to see what tools and odds and ends you have in your modelling boxes and how you use them. The value of this sort of evening was proved when I was showing another member how I used the SAM saw and scribing tool to make tear-drop navigation lights. I had used this technique for some years and it never occurred to me that everybody else wouldn't know it.

So what can I say about what been happening in the Bellamy household over the past month? In the past month Adele & I attended my Niece's wedding at Rushdon Hall, a stately pile just outside of Kettering, the wedding and reception went really well and we attended a family get together the next day at my Brothers home. All in all a very nice four days away from "normal life", whatever that is! Adele went away with her Mother for five days to the Peak District in the September sunshine; I on the other hand was left at home with the washing, cleaning, cooking and taxi duties for my Son. What can I say?

I'll finish off my article this month with a few "thoughts" on the comments by Alan Wright regarding the lack of points given to dark coloured models and our "grumpy" Chairman's reply. As you all know, I'm a quiet, shy, retiring sort of person and never one to express a firm opinion regarding our hobby at all. Ha, ha!

Thinking back it might well have been me that mentioned some time ago that it was my belief that if two models of a similar quality build, paint and decal finish were entered in a competition, one in a dark or monochrome finish and one in a bright or multi-coloured finish, the bright model will normally win. Judging from the comments in last month's magazine it would seem that my thoughts were correct. I can understand where Alan is coming from when he sees a number of similar models on the competition tables and his models, in black, doesn't place very well and a similar model in, say, a "raspberry ripple" scheme scores far better. Especially when he has recently put a lot of effort building a number of black training aircraft and all have underscored in the competition in his opinion. I don't think that this is any reflection on Alan's models or any personal bias necessarily simply animal nature. Let me clarify. If you want to succeed in the animal kingdom you must be eye-catching in some way, some birds have colourful plumage to attract a mate, poisonous frogs and spiders are normally yellow & black to proclaim "don't eat me or else". On the reverse of the coin, hunting animals and military planners go to extremes to be as unnoticeable as possible, also for survival.

The same applies to the clubs competition tables, say a 1930's U.S. trainer in yellow and blue with colourful stripes and markings on a dark green "grass" base is placed next to a F-16 in lo-viz greys and lo-viz markings on a "concrete" base, which is more eye-catching? The eye just seems to slide off of monotone or the 18% grey models, where it is continually drawn to the brighter or more colourful model, it's just human nature. I will be the first to admit that most of the models that I have won or placed highly with in competitions, if you can remember that far back! I'm sure it was down to the colour scheme rather than the subject or build quality and I can't even take credit for that most of the time as Adele normally chooses the colour scheme. Just to prove the point I built a Pfalz as a test piece for rigging and turnbuckles, Adele choose the red and white scheme and it placed highly in a modeller of year competition despite being not the best build quality by a long way. So in my humble opinion, if you want to do well in competitions nice eye-catching schemes will give you a few extra marks or just build what you like and enjoy the hobby for what it is. I'll now yield the soap box to the floor.....

Robin



"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine



www.sticky-fingers.org.uk

Wrighty's "References"



WrySpy Temporary Shutdown

Yes that's right WrySpy is going into a temporary shutdown (this news may make you think "thank goodness for that!"), however since its creation in 2012 it has come up with many topical news items in a slightly shaded light for you to feel you have the option to form an opinion. Whether you like it or not, it sets out a number of talking points for you to impress your friends with up to date knowledge and more conversation.

As I said the temporary closure is due to the fact that there are just too many wars and threats to involve the UK into these countries own little wars. We at WrySpy no longer have the agents to cover it all. Syria & Iraq are "no go" areas for us. Our agents are just that agents, not spies, war correspondents or biased press reporters, they are not people to be kidnapped or assassinated. Our people are just ordinary observers in the course of their daily lives, who take notice and report their findings to us, who link it up with news and opinion.

Certain reports have been obtained and held on file but WrySpy likes to offer both sides of the story as we did on the Ukraine, sadly we have to call a halt to this as it has re-ignited again (as of Sept 1st).

Such coverage, for example is not possible between Israel and Hamas, if you see what I mean (rockets lobbed at random and uncontrolled shelling, a truce that lasts about 3 hours). Or why would the Islamic State murder 250 supposed enemy soldiers in the most barbaric way, it's no better than the Nazis in W.W.II, who said such atrocious behaviour could never happen again?



Slaughter: The video shows up to 250 Syrian soldiers being stripped and killed at an airbase by Islamic State militants

Just in case you didn't see the pictures, here they are with a news report, just to say you couldn't get worse could you? Oh yes we can say IS as they behead 2 US news reporters, that got full coverage if the earlier event did not. Let's hope when WrySpy returns it does so to a cleaner world.

Grim procession of doomed captives in their underpants

ISLAMIC State fighters have executed up to 250 Syrian soldiers in horrific scenes captured on video. The massacre took place after the militants seized an airbase in the province of Raqqa at the weekend. The footage, posted yesterday on YouTube, showed the bodies of dozens of captured soldiers lying face down wearing nothing but their underwear. A separate pile of bodies was shown nearby. The caption beneath it said the dead numbered 250. An IS fighter in Raqqa told Reuters via the internet: 'Yes, we have executed them all.'

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights put the death toll in excess of 120. IS stormed Tabqa airbase on Sunday after days of clashes with the army and said it had captured and killed soldiers and officers. Experts said the fall of Tabqa, the army's last foothold in that area, and the apparent parading and killing of its soldiers showed IS has cemented its grip on the north of the country. The footage begins by showing the captives being marched in the desert with their hands behind their heads and watched by armed men. A militant repeatedly shouts out 'Islamic State', to which the men reply: 'It shall remain.'

In a separate video, a British student has boasted of joining the 'golden era of jihad' and fighting for IS. Hamzah Parvez, 21, claims he has been fighting for five months and calls on other British Muslims to join him. Speaking in a London accent, with his face hidden behind a black scarf, he tells the camera: 'What are we doing sitting in the UK? Sitting in the land which kills Muslims every day.'

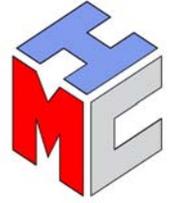
Earlier this year, he told his family he was travelling to Germany to study. Instead, he went to the Middle East where he joined the militants.

Bodies: The captives lay face down



"STICKY FINGERS"

Magazine



www.sticky-fingers.org.uk

The Final Countdown

You all know this song and the fact it was playing on the radio when I was carrying out a routine stock check of models in my garage space it suddenly brought home the fact I have no more space for 1/72nd & 1/48th models in boxes. The back half of the garage space is lined with boxes and models that never see the light of day, some of the 1/48th scale were some of the best I had ever produced, but the music rammed home its message loud and clear. To borrow a phrase from the WWE wrestler Hulk Hogan "Watcha you gonna do brother when "Modelmania" runs wild over you?" Yes, no more available space. A quick bit of mental arithmetic, looking at all the boxes equals to the fact I am left with 2 1/48 scale Russian kits surplus to requirements (a Mig-29 & an Su-27). The remaining kits in boxes have reserved their places for the time being. The 2 Russians like surplus footballers will be released to the highest bidder or cast upon the scrapheap.

For most of you the answer would be to fill up more of the loft space with kits in even larger boxes, finally to be taken to a boot sale or show (under the table) for resale. Something that fill many modellers with delight when they notch up a bargain, which usually joins the other loft storage, or else spoils the current "flavour of the month" model you are building, so loses its attraction and within 2 years time finds itself back under the table.

That is one road I have never been down, I have always believed in displaying models – as many as possible. Those of you who have visited my home will have noted the 2 large display cabinets in the front room, 1 for WW.II 1/72nd and another for the Jet Age also in 1/72nd. They were purpose built with 4 shelves for the jet age unit, the lower half of this cabinet contains three bookshelves, each jammed to capacity with relevant books to the models there in.

The WW.II cabinet is 2/3rd glazed shelf spaces containing 10 shelves, each containing 12 1/72nd models – making a total of 120 planes. The single wooden shelf for 12" deep books all related to WW.II participants, superb reference quality and many of them 1st editions. They have security for my lifetime.

Time The Final Enemy

Books, scale drawings, photos and magazines, I (and probably many of you) just cannot bear to throw away, even though some from the 70s & 80s look very crude compared to todays glossy super magazines. I tell myself this being the clubs reference expert this is all necessary but it's a somewhat lame excuse, although very useful over the years for items in Sticky Fingers.

These days, we are bullied by glossy magazines to become subscribers, most have one magazine (in my case Air Combat) and then we have to buy the binder for yearly volumes. I started this one in 2009 and still going strong, but the pile in the corner grows ever higher, so this year the subscriber must call time on the subscription. The question to ask yourself is when did you last look at year 2009? Answer 2010; conclusion why keep them, but then I can't keep all the contents in my head. The answer is that one is "computer apps", no storage problems here then, maybe for someone like me presses the wrong button and loses the lot.

Time in the shape of a family member or distant relative will eventually decide the fate of your collection, like passing it over to a younger relative or selling them on to a dealer or at the worst case condemning them to waste paper recycling or in the case of the models throwing them into a black bag to be crushed and damaged beyond repair.

Alan