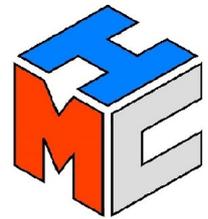




# Sticky Fingers



The Hornchurch Model Club Newsletter

Issue 190 Mar 2020



Next month – April 2020 – Post Expo Show and Tell

*A view from the Hill...*

## My First Sticky Fingers

First, I would like to say **A BIG THANK YOU** to both Peter and Robin who have, under their stewardship, made the Hornchurch Model Club such a friendly and welcoming place to be. When I was looking to join a model club many years ago (not saying which one) I was made to feel about as welcome as a proverbially shark in a swimming pool! I'm pleased to say that this was not the case in our club.

## February Meeting Update

All Change!

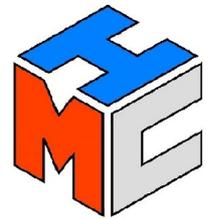
Well, what can I say, after some mild arm twisting and a lot of not so gentle nudging over the past year, particularly from some quarters (you know who you are), I have accepted the position (or poisoned chalice) as our new Club Secretary. I want to thank you all for your confidence in me and I hope that with your help our great little club will continue to be a success. It is not an understatement when I say that both Peter and Robin are going to be a tough act to follow however with **John Huston** as new club competition secretary and the venerable **Wally Arrowsmith** as our ongoing club treasurer, we should hopefully be able to carry on without too many problems. Peter and Robin, will I'm sure be on hand to offer advice and support to your new committee. I can't promise you the same 15 years in the role like Robin & Peter did as I will be pushing 79 by then! But I am relishing the challenge.

There is one very important thing I would ask you all to do for me and that is to please keep coming along each month and help us keep this club as the most friendly, enjoyable and above all welcoming place that it is. One idea I have going forward is that I would like to make every club night as a **"Work in Progress"** night. The thought behind this is that at every meeting you bring along something you are working on, not necessarily to work on, but to show and talk about over tea and nibbles and maybe share some tips, problems or anything else that might (or might not) be interesting about your builds. I think it will be quite interesting to see subjects we would normally not build ourselves under construction instead of fully built on the tables...

**Graham**



# Sticky Fingers



## Johns Jottings...

Hello, my fellow members, after being a shadow to Robin for the last couple of months it is now time for me to step out into the spotlight and go solo... however, as we have no competitions scheduled for this or indeed next month, I am getting off lightly. Once again can I offer own thanks to Robin for his infinite patience in showing me the ropes, well actually showing me the excel sheets and I am delighted that he will be on hand to assist should the need arise.

I should also say that in his amazing **180 month** tenure as the competitions secretary he has managed to streamline the whole process into such a well-oiled machine that only a complete idiot could mess it up.... Oops!

Also given that at our recent ~~sun-fight~~ AGM last month the Club in its wisdom decided unanimously to keep the existing club competition format totally unchanged.... I guess if it isn't broke why fix it eh!. I can therefore see there being little disruption to the competitions going forward... (famous last words)

**John**

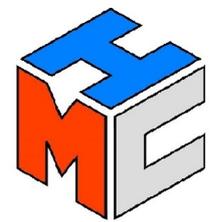
## Southern Expo 2020 – The Farewell Show

It just won't be the same to have a Sticky Fingers and not talk about Southern Expo... but as we prepare for the farewell show I would like to remind everyone that can come along and help, that set-up will be on Friday evening (27<sup>th</sup> March) from 7:00pm onwards.... They say many hands make light work and it is amazing how quickly the tables/chairs can get done, so don't be late or you'll miss the fun. Our honorary members Adele & Karen (without out whom any Expo could not run smoothly) should be administrating well deserved refreshments after set-up is complete. It goes without saying but Help breaking down the tables on the Sunday evening will also be most appreciated as too would any volunteers to help man the entry table for short stints.

The organisers, I am sure, appreciate as many of our club members be available to volunteer, but let us not forget it is as important for as many club members as possible to attend the show and of course populate the club's six tables with models. Remember they do not have to be as part of our club theme of "**First & Last**" and all our club members are eligible to put their models on the club stand but it would be appreciated if our members could also lend some of their time over the weekend to man the stand throughout the two days. As Peter always said we are the best recruiting tool for the club....



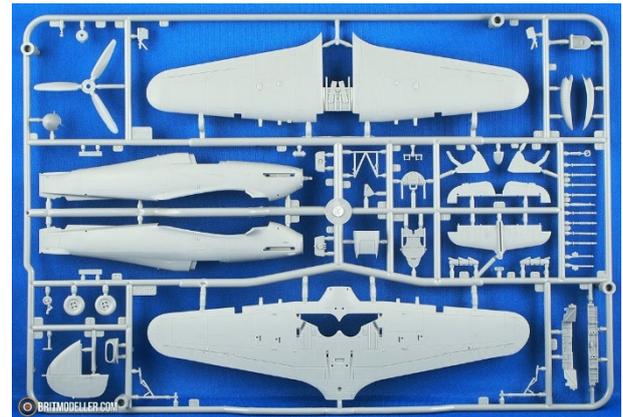
# Sticky Fingers



## Kit Reviews

In an attempt to provide us with something to read each month I propose to take full advantage of the world wide web with its wealth of information we modellers might find of interest and so I hope to bring you some kit or tool reviews from around the hobby.... To start us off we have a review courteous of Britmodeller.com.

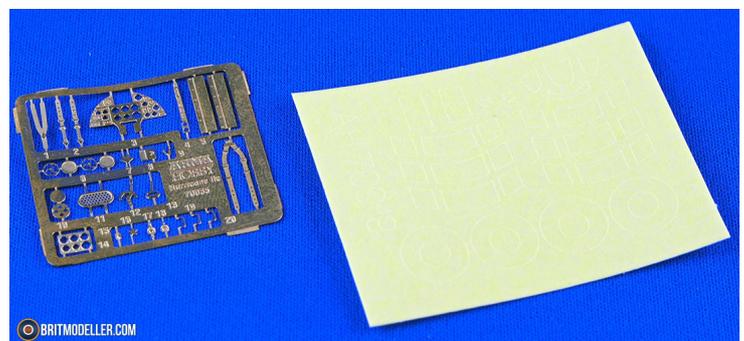
### Hurricane Mk.IIc (Expert Set) 70035



Although somewhat less glamorous than the Supermarine Spitfire, it was the Hawker Hurricane that proved to be the backbone of the UK's air defences during the summer of 1940. Designed in 1935, the Hurricane was relatively advanced compared to other fighters in service at that point. It featured a fully enclosed cockpit, retractable undercarriage, eight .303 inch machine guns, a powerful liquid-cooled V12 engine and, most importantly, a cantilever monoplane. Despite its modern appearance, the design and manufacturing techniques were thoroughly conventional. This proved useful when it came to manufacture because the aircraft was easy to produce, repair and maintain. The Hurricane's first kill was achieved on 21st October 1939 when 46 Sqn found and attacked a squadron of Heinkel He115s over the North Sea. The Mk.IIc was a much improved version, armed with four 20mm cannon and equipped with the Rolls Royce Merlin XX engine, capable of developing almost 1,500hp. These aircraft were generally used for ground attack and night fighting duties as, despite the improvements, it couldn't quite compete with the best the Luftwaffe had to offer.

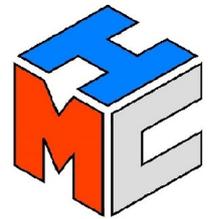
**Arma Hobby** hail from Warsaw, Poland. Although a relatively new name to the hobby, I've been mightily impressed with their products and particularly the way they manage to combine fine detail with ease of assembly. The moulded plastic parts are as well-made as anything I've seen from the big names in the hobby, with crisp panel lines and a finesse of finish that really helps their kits to stand out. This makes for appealing kits that you really want to build as soon as you handle the plastic. As this is an Expert Set, you get extra decal options, paint masks and a small fret of brass parts too. The decals look excellent and the full-colour instructions are equally impressive.

Although this kit follows on from Arma Hobby's earlier Hurricane Mk.I, as the kit is presented on a single frame of parts it is to all intents and purposes an entirely new model. Construction





# Sticky Fingers



starts with the wing and the main landing gear wheel well. This is assembled and sandwiched between the surfaces of the single span upper and lower wing. With the wings assembled, construction moves on to the cockpit. Some of the parts, such as the rudder pedal and control column, are added onto the floor that is moulded as part of the upper wing, while the remaining parts including the instrument panel, seat and structural framework are sandwiched between the fuselage halves. The small fret of photo etched parts comes into play at this juncture, providing the seat harnesses, instrument panel, compass and throttle control.



Once the fuselage halves have been joined, the previously assembled main wing can then be added, along with the vertical and horizontal tail. The rudder is a solid part, while the elevators are moulded separately. The tail wheel and main wheels can now be added. Flat spots are moulded in place on the main wheels, and as this is part of Arma Hobby's 'Expert Set' range, pre-cut paint masks are provided for all of the wheels. Once the landing gear doors have been added, the radiator and carburettor intake can be assembled. Again the photo etch comes into play, providing parts for the latter as well as the landing lights, exhaust flame shields and pilot's footstep. The tropical air filter for HV560 can also be added at this stage. Last but not least, the four 20mm cannon barrels, the propeller and spinner and the aerial mast can be added, as well as the two-part canopy for which masks are provided.

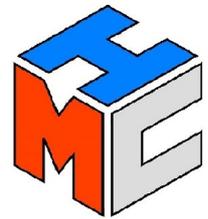


The decal options include:

- BE500/LK-A, 87 Squadron RAF, Spring 1942, flown by Squadron Leader Denis Smallwood. This aircraft is finished in overall black;
- BE500/LK-A, 87 Squadron RAF, Operation Jubilee, Dieppe Raid, 19 August 1942, flown by Squadron Leader Denis Smallwood and Flight Sergeant Henryk Józef Trybulec. This aircraft is finished in Dark Green and Ocean Grey over black;
- Z3899/JX-W, 1 Squadron RAF, November 1941. This aircraft is finished in Dark Green and Ocean Grey over Medium Sea Grey; and
- HV560/FT-Z, 43 Squadron RAF, Maison Blanche, Algeria, December, 1942, flown by Squadron Leader Michael "Micky" Rook. This aircraft is finished in Dark Green and Dark Earth over Sky Blue.



# Sticky Fingers



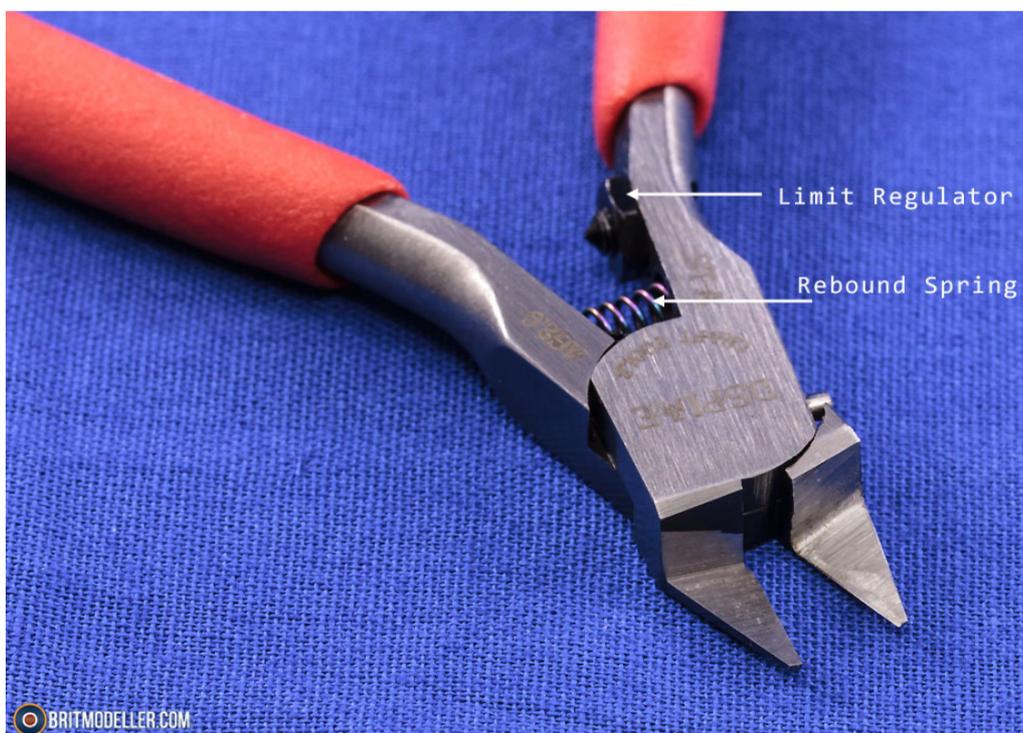
## Conclusion

I'm always glad to see an Arma Hobby kit in my review boxes as, in my experience they really hit the sweet spot between detail and buildability. The care and attention they take with the design and production of each model is a key feature of their kits, and this is no exception. The amount and quality of detail on offer is easily on a par with their competitors, but the kit is not over-engineered and should be easy to build as a result. The decal options are excellent too.

## Single Blade Nipper 2.0 (ST-A)

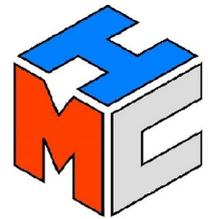


I'd never heard of DSPIAE until a friend of mine was muttering about the new sprue cutters he'd bought at Telford (thanks Dan), and how awesome they were. I was in the market for a set, as my old Xuron pair weren't looking too good, and I was sick of the crush-marks that were being left in parts when I removed them from their sprues. Post-Telford they were only available from the AliExpress shopping platform, so I took my life in my hands and ordered a pair. It wasn't too painful, and after I got over an initial inability to pay by card, the order was completed and I was kept apprised of progress toward delivery by email from the AliExpress platform. About a week later and a small box arrived with the DSPIAE logo on it.



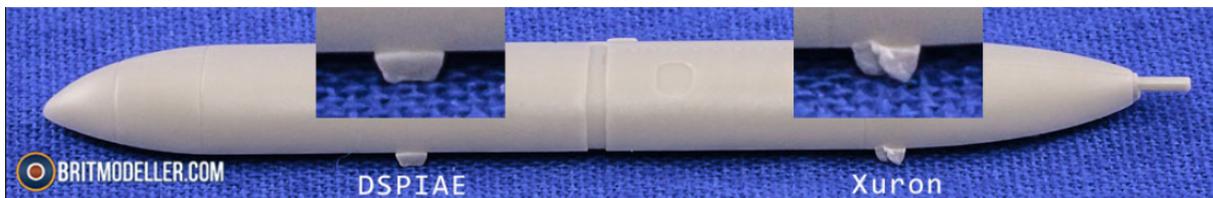


# Sticky Fingers



Inside the box was a shrink-wrapped black box with an overlapping lid made from sturdy card. Inside the lid is a card insert with a small holster for the blade visible, with cleaning cloth, plastic cover and instructions hidden inside. Removing that shows off the final layer containing the nippers and an adjustment wrench in a card-topped custom foam surround. The interior of the lid is a bright red, in keeping with the overall black/red theme that carries on a feeling of quality. Each nipper is also individually ID coded, which enables the buyer to confirm their purchase's authenticity and access product support if necessary.

The adjustment wrench has a rounded Allen head that you use to change the limit of closure of the jaws, to ensure a clean cut with no stragglers, whilst maintaining the sharpness of the single blade by preventing it from mashing unfettered into the non-cutting jaw. The handles are 90mm across when open, and the length from stem to tip of blade is 110mm, so they're quite a compact set of cutters, but don't let that put you off if you have large hands. My mitts are fairly large, and I have no trouble using them, with the red foam grips making maintaining a good grip on them simple. Afterall, the last thing you want to do is drop them on a hard floor.



Note the comparative smoothness of the cut on the left compared with that of the right

I could show you some pictures of pieces of sprue that I have cut with the nippers, but that's not going to tell you much other than it's a clean cut. What a picture will not tell you is that the cutting process is smooth beyond all belief and almost effortless. I can honestly say that it has completely changed the way I cut parts from sprues, and has given me increased confidence that the result will be clean and require much less in the way of clean-up than previously achieved with side-cutters. Simply place the cutters close to the part, and lightly scissor the jaws closed. That's it. A beautiful, clean cut that is close to the part, and has not harmed, stressed or crushed the surrounding styrene in any way. It also applies much less pressure to the parts when cutting, so you're less likely to have any breakages as a result. For example, when cutting off fine tubular parts with multiple sprue gates, the sideways and lateral pressure of a standard cutter squeezing the gate can cause the parts to shatter as the gate widens by the thickness of the blade. This shouldn't be an issue with these nippers, and I have successfully cut a number of parts that would have otherwise been subject to this concern. With very small parts, you need to be careful to place the blades properly against the sprue gates, as the slightly wider nature of the non-cutting jaw can conceivably push the blade off course. With that in mind however, it should no-longer be an issue. That's the only caveat, and you'd only do it once!

The instructions name all the components of the nippers and also give names to the accessories, such as the "nipper holster", which will be useful if you are storing your nippers in a tool box or transporting them. This will protect the blade, and also protect the world from tiny amounts of grease that are lubricating the pivot. There is also a plastic cover for the blade, which is very tight-fitting, but would protect your blade from much greater impacts than the leatherette holster, so it has a use. The little microfibre cloth is wrapped in a foil bag, and is DSPIAE branded in one of its radiused corners – very nice quality too. The instructions are a little "Chinglish" in places, but the gist is plain to see.

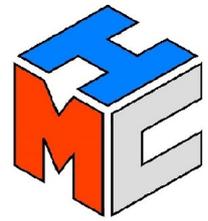
A final warning... under **NO** circumstances attempt to cut anything other than styrene, ABS or polyurethane resin with this tool or it will damage it. This included phot0-etch parts.

## Conclusion

I wouldn't think you'd catch me enthusing about a simple sprue-cutter in such a gushing manner, but these things really are that good. Their performance when compared to other brands is like that of chalk and cheese, so they are most definitely worth the extra cost in my opinion, which when you remove the shipping cost makes them pretty good value. I have purchased two from DSPIAE now, plus a couple of pairs of their tweezers, and so far they have not been stopped by customs (presumably due to their low value), but always bear this in mind when purchasing from overseas.



# Sticky Fingers



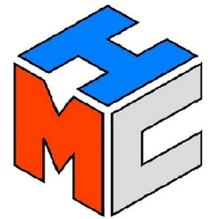
Extremely highly recommended.

## Provisional Meeting Schedule for 2020 - 2021

March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-Southern Expo
April 20 <sup>h</sup>	Show What You Bought Modelling Night
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Competition Night
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Video Night hosted by John Bennet
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Competition Night
August 15 <sup>th</sup>	RFC Talk
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	Competition Night
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	Open Night Lucky Dip Starter Kits
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	Competition Night
December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz and nibbles
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	Competition: Modeller of the Year
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	AGM + Lucky Dip Competition



# Sticky Fingers



## CLUB RULES

- The Club will be known as “**IPMS Hornchurch Model Club**”
- The Club will meet on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Monday of each month unless agreed in advance by our members.
- The Club will engage in all aspects of modelling and its associated activities.
- Club membership is conferred by monthly subscription and membership is open to the general public.  
The Club memberships available are as follows;

**Adult Member** - Anyone over the age of 18 years old.

**Junior Member** – Anyone under the age of 18 years old.

**Visitor** – A member of the general public who visits the Club before joining

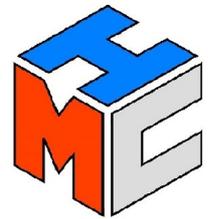
- Club subscription will be charged to all members. The amount of that subscription will be decided at the Annual General Meeting and will be payable to the Club Treasurer on each club night or to another Committee Member should the Treasurer not be in attendance.
- Club members are responsible for the set-up of the tables/chairs provided on club nights AND for the taking down at the end of the night.
- The Club provides refreshments on the night and each member is responsible for ensuring that they clean away their cups before they depart for the night.
- An Annual General Meeting will be held on the first Club night in February.
- Only honorary and fully paid up members will be entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) and Extraordinary General Meetings (**EGM**).
- The Club and its members shall not be liable for any injuries sustained or losses incurred through Club activities.
- No property of the Club can be taken from the premises without prior written consent of a Committee member.
- Alteration of these rules will only be made at the **AGM** or an **EGM** called specially for that purpose whereupon 14 days’ notice will be given to all members via email.
- Proposed alterations, additions or amendments to these rules complete with the names of the proposers and seconders, should be presented to the Club Secretary in writing one month prior to the AGM.
- A copy of the Club Rules will be given to each member upon joining the Club and copies can either be obtained from the Club Secretary or Altered and amended rules will be distributed to all members as soon as practical.

## COMMITTEE

- The Officers of the Club shall consist of a **Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer**  
A quorum will consist of more than half of the Committee and a Committee meeting cannot take place unless a quorum is present. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt any member as and when deemed appropriate.
- The Committee should be responsible for the safe keeping of all Club property where reasonably practical and an inventory should be kept of all Club property.
- All monies collected should be dealt with by the Treasurer or his representative only and shall be responsible for accounts, having the same available for inspection by any fully paid up member on written request and at the AGM. The Club financial year will run from the AGM until the following years AGM, unless at an EGM it is called forward.



# Sticky Fingers



## COMPETITION RULES

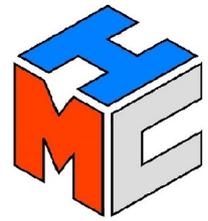
- Club Competitions are split into 2 Trophies the **Wally Arrowsmith Trophy** and the **IPMS Hornchurch Trophy**
- Each Club Trophies consist of 2 sub categories
- Competitions are run over rounds determined at the AGM (currently 4 rounds plus a theme build round).
- The schedule and any “Themes” for the competitions are decided at the AGM.
- All models must have been completed for that competition year.

	Category A	Category B
Wally Arrowsmith Trophy	Any Aircraft : 1/72 <sup>nd</sup> scale or less	Any Aircraft : 1/48 <sup>th</sup> scale or greater
IPMS Hornchurch Trophy	Military Vehicles : any scale	Everything else: Civilian vehicles, Figures, Ships etc.

- Registration of models **MUST** be made before 20:15hrs to allow members voting to start at this time.
- Members vote for their favourite models in order of preference ranked from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> place in each category and competition.
- During each competition round club members may enter a maximum of 2 models per category
- Members can enter models in either or both competitions simultaneously ( total of 8 models max)
- A model may only be entered into any competition once.
- It has been agreed that dioramas shall count as 1 model.
- Two models on one base, but not a diorama, count as 2 models.
- Members are expected to **NOT** vote for their own entries. Any member found voting for their own models will have their entry declared null and void. Persistent offending will result in removal from standing for the year.
- The member with the highest overall point scores in each competition after the last round will be the declared Club Champion for that year.
- In the event of a points tie then the number of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places etc. will be the deciding factor.
- All models entered throughout the year in any of the rounds shall be eligible for entry into the “Modeller of the Year” competition.
- **In the event of a dispute the Competition Secretary’s’ decision is final.**



# Sticky Fingers



## POINT SCORING

- Every model entered in each competition scores 5 points.
- The following points will be awarded for the 1<sup>st</sup> five places in each competition category.

1 <sup>st</sup> place	20 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	18 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	16 points
4 <sup>th</sup> place	14 points
5 <sup>th</sup> place	12 points

i.e.  
Entering 1 model that places 3<sup>rd</sup> scores 5 points for entry + 16 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> giving a total of 21 points.  
Entering 2 model that places 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> scores 10 points both entries + 20 points for 1<sup>st</sup> & 18 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> giving a total of 48 points.

## MODELLER OF THE YEAR

### Rules

- Judging for the MOY competition will be performed by external judges. These guest judges should have no association with any of the entered models.
- **ALL** models entered throughout the year are eligible for entry into the MOY competition.
- First, second and third places are to be awarded with the following prizes.

1 <sup>st</sup> place	£20
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	£10
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	£5

- **In the event of a dispute the judge's decision is final.**

## SHOWS

The following rules apply for the Club display at shows throughout the year.

- Models should be at the show in good time to allow the club stand to be set up. Normally this is one hour before the show opens to the public. If you can't arrive in good time, please arrange for a member to take your models for you.
- Models for show should be completed. No "work in progress" models to be displayed on the table.
- Once on the table models should not be removed until the close of the show. If you wish to enter your model in the show competition, then it should not be included as part of the Club display.
- All members submitting models as part of the Club display are expected to take a turn in manning the stand during the show.