

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF IPMS, NEW ZEALAND, ALICKLAND BRANCH



#### Contents

**Bulletin Board** 

Airfix 1/72 Schnellboot

Hawker Typhoons Mk.IB (Car Door) 1/72 Academy/Brengun Kit-bash HEAVY HOBBY 1:35 T54 E1 SHERMAN TRACKS

On the table

#### NEXT MEETING

7.30 pm Tuesday 16/8/2022

**Royal Oak Bowls** 

146 Selwyn St, Onehunga

#### COMMITTEE

Chairman - Craig Sargent Secretary - Brett Peacock

ock Lance Whitford

Dave Fish

Treasurer - Mark Robson

EDITOR: Lance Whitford

e: lancewhitford@hotmail.com

EMAIL: ipmsauckland@gmail.com

WEB: ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com

YAHOO: groups.yahoo.com/group/ipmsauckland

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

## From the Editor

It's good to be on the back end of winter and finally heading slowly back towards warmer weather and longer days. What's more, there are a couple of modelling events to look forward to this year after the long COVID hiatus we've been through here in NZ

The Dunedin nationals to be held in early October are looming up fast. And I for one am looking forward to attending and catching up with friends from the mainland. This week we received some fresh news from the Waikato Scale Modellers club regarding a one day competition to be held in Hamilton on Saturday 17 September. Full details are available later in this newsletter.

This month the focus of our meeting is on the subject of priming. The premise being 'to prime or not to prime'. There are times where priming is a must and times when it is not so clear cut. We will explore the pros and cons and also the products people use and why they use them.

# Ukraine Theme Build

Don't forget our Ukraine theme build comes to a conclusion at the November meeting.



# **BULLETIN BOARD**

## NEW MEMBERS AND SUBS \*\*\*\*\* 2022/23 NOW DUE \*\*\*\*\*

Subs for 2022/23 now due -see below for club account details or see the club secretary

#### at the next club meeting.

Membership Type	Description	Cost
Full	Living in the Auckland	NZ\$45
Out Of Town	Living 75km or more from	NZ\$30
Junior	Same rights as full mem- bership for those under	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

August 16th	To prime or not to prime, that is the question.
September	Vacforms — kits and can-
20th	opies. Yes they still have

their uses.....

### PLASTIC MODEL EXHIBITION ~ National Championship ~



FREE PUBLIC ENTRY Saturday and Sunday 1 - 2 October, 2022 Hutton Theatre, Otago Museum 416 Great King Street, North Dunedin

www.facebook.com/IPMSDunedin

Waikato Scale Model Club Model Competition Full details on the next page.....

## Waikato Scale Model Club Model Competition 2022 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022 AT 10 AM Hamilton Cosmopolitan Club Inc

For 2022, the Waikato Scale Model Club are doing things a little different when it comes to our model competition

Usually we hold the model competition during & at the "Armistice in Cambridge" event in November. This year we have decided to hold a separate Model Competition and Show on Saturday 17 September at the Hamilton Cosmopolitan Club. There will not be a model competition at Armistice

We will still attend Armistice in Cambridge and have models on display but will focus on the "Kits for Kids" and have more of a fun & social aspect to the event. So bring your models to display, bring the kids to have a go at building a kit and come chat with everyone. Our members will still be there, helping with the kids, building models, etc

To enter our competition there is a \$5 per model entry fee, with a max of \$20 per person We have made up a bunch of trophies so bring your best models and you might win!

- Entry to the model competition will be between 9-12pm
- Doors open to public at 10
- Prizegiving is at 4pm
- 2nd & 3rd will be placed on tables while 1st is presented at prizegiving
- If you win, please put your trophy beside your model so others can see who won
- Event finishes at 5 so you may start packing up AFTER 5

For more details — https://www.facebook.com/groups/1793082770812738

## Categories

#### **Plane Category**

A1 Aircraft 1/72 and Smaller – Prop A2 Aircraft 1/72 and Smaller – Jet A3 Aircraft 1/48 Prop A4 Aircraft 1/48 Jet A5 Aircraft 1/32 & above - Prop A6 Aircraft 1/32 & above - Jet **Naval Category** S1 Ship - 1/500 & Smaller S2 Ship - Larger than 1/500 Military Vehicle Category M1 Military - 1/72 and smaller M2 Military - 1/48 and smaller M3 Military - 1/35 and Larger **Diorama Category** D1 Diorama - Air - Military D2 Diorama - Land - Military D3 Diorama - Sea - Military D4 Diorama - Civilian D5 Diorama - Vignette

#### Junior Category

J1 Junior - All Scale and Types Figures Category F1 Figure - Under 120mm (1/16) F2 Figure - 120mm (1/16) and Larger **Science Category** SF1 Science - Fiction SF2 Science - Fact SF3 Si-Fi / Si Fact Diorama **Automobiles Category** C1 Civilian - Road Vehicles C2 Civilian - Racing (F1, NAS, Custom) C3 Civilian - Truck C4 Civilian - Motorcycles **Helicopter Category** H1 Helicopter - All Scale and Types

# **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.



349 Dominion Road Mount Eden Auckland p: 09 520 1236



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

10% on kits and modelling supplies

## Constellation HOBBIES

Unit 5/1 Greenwich Way, Unsworth Heights, Auckland. Ph: (09) 441 3562

10% on kits and modelling supplies



#### **Merv Smith Hobbies**

27 Davis Crescent Newmarket Auckland

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

#### **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

## Airfix 1/72 Schnellboot

## **By Mark Davies**



The Airfix Schnellboot dates from 1975 with around 300 parts. I built mine over three-weeks during our first Covid lock-down. It was my first build of a surface vessel, having previously built one small coastal Type XXIII U-boot and four midget submarines, all to 1/72 scale.

Some reviews mention that the kit has minor hull profile issues, but that these are of less significance for a waterline model. I wished to depict my model cutting through waves a speed, which at the time felt a bit over-ambitious for my first attempt at modelling a sea base, but it proved easier than expected.

There were some aspects of the kit which I felt needed to be improved upon:

- The torpedo tube doors were compromised, possibly due to the unnecessary gimmickry of being made to open and close. It was apparent that their appearance was wrong when comparing them to photos of the real vessel, so I made new brackets and hinges for them. I replaced rivet detail lost after sanding seams with resin rivet decals by Archer Fine Transfers.
- The integrally moulded anchor and its chain were removed from the foredeck although I reused the anchor and added a metal chain some time later.



• The kit's depth charges and their racks are a work of complete imagination by Airfix; being of a size (huge) and shape (all wrong) that bore no relationship to German (or allied) depth charges. The cage-like racks were also a nothing remotely like the simple rails and cable restraints employed by S-Boots. I fitted my model out with far more accurate PE racks by Griffon Model that were intended for the later class S-100 Schnellboot by Revell, and some resin depth charges by a German brand I no longer recall.



• The kit's two torpedo reloads came with very simplified racks that were a little short and basic in terms of detail. The racks were re-

placed with some after-market PE items, again, by Griffon Model, and a pair of torpedoes from the Revell S-100 kit (whose torpedoes in turn will be replaced with Griffon Model items when I build it).

- I made wire dogs for the various hatches.
- It seemed easier to replace the stanchions with plastic rod than clean up the kit items due to flash and some slight mould misalignment.
- I added a few little details to the 20mm cannon, used some halfround styrene strip to make a rubbing strip where the deck meets the hull, added some reinforcing details to the spray guards in front of the wheelhouse, added some coiled ropes from lead wire, and ran



stretched sprue between the stanchions. The mast was refined a little and rigged using some fine thread.

The model was generally OK to build. The most frustrating part was to be the way adjacent parts were numbered anywhere from 1 to 300 – Viz: part #14 might fit to part # 211, with the part numbering being all jumbled amongst the runners. This was made worse by no instructional parts map to aid finding anything.

The biggest challenge seemed to be the seascape, but it was actually quite straightforward.



I used an old plastic sign to make a wave-profiled frame on a rectangular base. Layered pieces of expanded polystyrene were cut and placed inside the frame after cutting the hull's outline from each layer. These where glued together and made to conform with the wave profiles of the enclosing frame, but finished a few millimetres lower than the edge, to allow for the thickness of a plaster layer matching the profiles. I used GIB Plus 4 dry-wall finishing compound for this. Various ripples were made in the plaster using my fingers, then a thin wet coat was applied and further rippled with blasts of air from an airbrush at 30 psi.

The plaster waves were airbrushed in various blue and green shades of acrylic paint, lightening the coverage towards the wave crests and also astern of the vessel to suggest churned water



White artist's oil paint was dry-brushed across the painted surface to suggest spume and a build-up of phosphorescence at the wave crests and in the churned wake. The seascape was then given several coats of gloss clear acrylic. This was both to simulate water and to give some protection to the delicate coats of acrylic paint and plaster surface in preparation for the next steps.

My plan was to have the boat knifing its way through a rolling swell with an arcing bowwave to convey a sense of speed through the



water. I needed to create the appearance of clear and churned water with spray and spume falling in on itself.



A cut-out section of a clear soft-drink bottle formed the underlying structure of what would become the bow-wave. It was glued to the base and blended in with GIB Plus 4. I forgot to stop and photograph the steps being taken because I got a bit engrossed with making my wave! So, the earliest image I have is of the bow-waves already layered with clear ultraviolet light-curing acrylic resin. I applied this rapidly in small sections outside on an overcast day, churning it with cocktail stick before it cured within seconds.

I also soaked some white acrylic fluff used to stuff soft-toys in clear epoxy and stuck this to the wave-crest.

On the left side of the above image can be seen plaster used to blend the starboard bow-wave into the base, and some clear epoxy-soaked white fluff I mentioned previously. This would then have clear resin poured onto it. On the right side of the same image is the port bow-wave after airbrushing some thin blue and green tones that transitioned from dense to light coats towards the crest, and progressive dry-brushing of white oil paint onto the light-cured resin that had

Here is the starboard bow-wave after some more work to progress it to the same stage of as the port one. I also added little flecks of resin-soaked tissue paper to mimic spume, added blobs of white oil paint and dry-brushed until I felt I done enough. I became so enamoured with creating these waves that I failed to adequately study the way a bow cleaves the water. My waves are simply pushed aside and left to spill in on themselves with a rearwards flow, whereas the hull actually imparts a forwards and outward curl, which then rolls in on itself. I'll do better next time!



As a finishing touch I melted some clear sprue to form water spouts discharged by the boat's bilge pumps. The tan speckles on the water are, in fact, reflected lights in my dining room where I took the photos.



The following images of the finished model include one or two figures from the kit and the remainder from Revell's WW2 Kriegsmarine set made of soft plastic



I took these photos before some fine metal chain for the anchor I had mail-ordered arrived.







### Hawker Typhoons Mk.IB (Car Door) 1/72 Academy/Brengun Kit-bash By Mark Davies



I had begun to build the Brengun Typhoon Mk.IB Car Door kit, but I soon came to think that I had been too keen to sing their praises when reviewing the kit for HyperScale some years ago.

Most of what I said still stands, but upon coming to build one I found the need to re-escribe 75% of the panel lines due to portions of them being ill-defined too onerous to remedy, as I find re-scribing particularly awkward these days. In the right hands a <u>beautiful model</u> can be built, but not in my case.

This led me to look at using the better bits of Brengun's kit and to convert the cheap and easy-to-build Academy kit. I had planned to use Brengun's injected car door canopy but I found this did not sit too well on the Academy fuselage (it can of course be made to fit), so I used a Falcon vac-form canopy designed to be used with the very old original Airfix kit that dates from 1959!

I ended up building two car door Typhoons by this method as I rather like their rugged appearance compared to the later blown hood examples. The decals for both models came from an Xtradecal set I had reviewed for <u>HyperScale in April 2016</u>. The images really tell the rest of the story for the intruder, and whilst some of the same work was carried out on the desert aircraft, I did not use Brengun's wheel wells or as many after-market items.



#### QuickBoost resin seat.

Brengun kit's cockpit, the main benefit being a correctly shaped headrest armour & better detail in this area than the Academy kit.

> Cut out kit exhaust and replaced with QuickBoost resin ones.

-

Backed open landing light apetures.

Res-Im resin radiator.

Scribed cardoor outline. Cut out and made coloured wing tip hav lights.

Shims to improve fit.

Removed grossly over-scale fishplate from around trasnport joint. Removed kit's shrouded cannous & replaced them with aluminium & brass examples of the exposed barrel type by Master.

> Cannon casing ejection ports opened up and blanked off inside of the wngs.

Academy kit's wheel wells cut out & replaced by Brengun kit's.

Brengun kit's rear face of radiator matrix.

> Blanked-off landing light apeture with plastic disc to represent reflector.



I removed the rhomboid-shaped reinforcement plates from around the kit's transport joint as they resembled blocks of 4x2" timber and looked ridiculous. Some may wonder why I did not replace this detail with something finer. My reasoning was that the real plates the thickness of the aircraft's skin, and only readily seen close up when dirt had built up around their edges. They tend to be unseen in photos viewed from modest distances and, since a 1/72 scale model viewed from 12" (30cm) equates to a real plane

being viewed from a distance of 72' (21.6m), I felt I could ignore representing them. Besides, R8696 (SA-Z) was not fitted with them anyway.

A worthwhile compromise might be to draw a reinforcing plate as a suitably scaled graphic to print on clear decal film. The decal plates could be applied and given a diluted spray of the camouflage colours to give just a hint of their presence.





It was also necessary to shorten the kit's oleos to achieve the correct sit as can be see for the oleo on the right of this image. $\rightarrow$ 

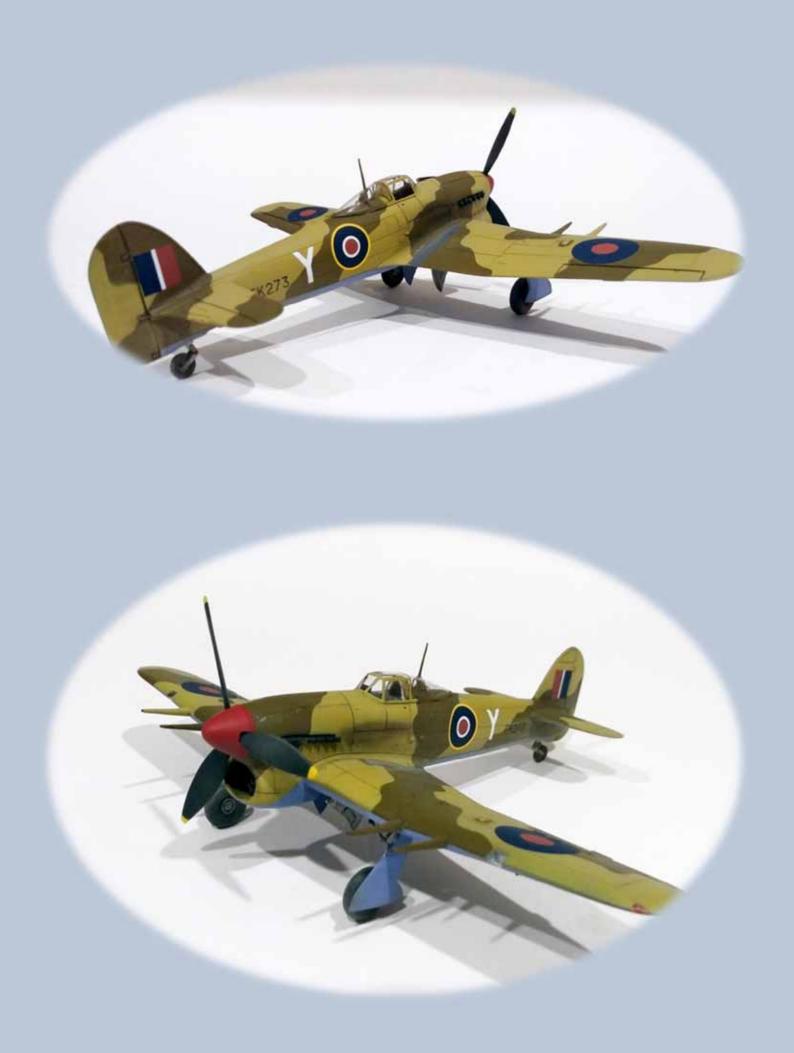






The distinctly different colour schemes have an appealing contrast when displayed side by side.





### HEAVY HOBBY 1:35 T54 E1 SHERMAN TRACKS By Lance Whitford



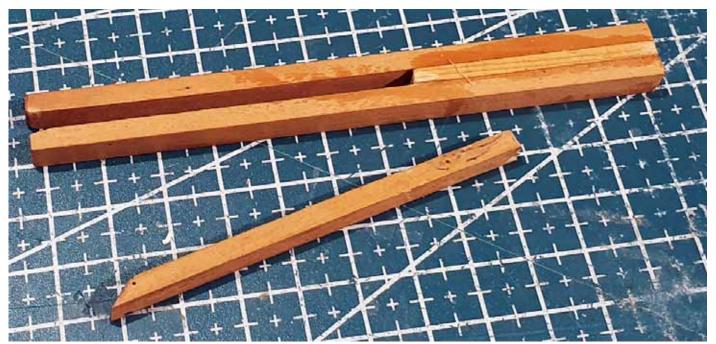
This is a sequel to Pete Mossong's review published last month. I had already ordered a set of Heavy Hobby T54E1 tracks for one of my current Sherman projects at the time we went to print and this set has subsequently arrived. Much of what Peter said applies to the set I bought. I have completed both full runs of tracks to the point of dry fitting them to the model. As there is no glue involved in assembly this allows leaving off the final set of connectors on each run which will permit them to be painted off the model and fitted at the most opportune time. My set came with both the pads and connectors ready to assemble with no removal of parts from a carrier required and more importantly no cleanup required.

As Peter mentioned, in his review the Sherman had a nominal complement of 79 links per side apart from the M4A4 (aka Sherman V) which featured a slightly elongated hull due to it's oversized powerplant. I found that I could do a full run on an Asuka MAA2 kit with 77 links. After assembly I have 10 track pads left over 2 of them had short shot pins while the rest are ones where I managed to break one of the pins. I was worried that I would not have enough good links and decide that if I needed more links I could replace the damaged pins with brass wire but in the end I had just enough. These damaged links can be used as spare tracks on the model in which case the pins either need replacement or the grove near the ends filled in. These groves connect with a ridge inside the end connectors and the combination forms a nice push fit when assembling the tracks proper. The assembled runs are fully workable and are quite sturdy. I expect that they will be able to handle normal painting and weathering without fear of damage.



The shot above gives a clear idea of what's in the box. The parts came like this and required absolutely no cleanup unlike any other aftermarket tracks I've worked with. I assembled both runs in a couple of sessions of around an hour each. I can cope with that.

I have an old wooden jig designed to assist with assembling Dragon individual link tracks which I built years ago and this proved to be perfect for assembling these tracks as well. The jig is made from hardwood strips which are available in hobby shops. The wood is quite stiff but has a bit of flex. I was able to slide the links between the prongs of the jig and then clamp those together with one hand while positioning a connector. I just added one link at a time to a the previous one in the jig until I had a length consisting of 10 links. I built seven of those per side then joined them together using my jig before finishing the final shorter run which grew until I had enough links to join the ends together. Pretty painless work and very satisfying to see them come together so sweetly.



Above is a shot of my jig and the little bit of wood I used as a helper when some connecters proved to be less interested in sliding fully onto their pegs. In these cases I would place the opposite side of the run on a hard surface while holding the jig firm. If both holes in a connecter were not playing ball I would carefully press down with the square end ensuring that all force was in line with the pins If only on side was showing resistance I would sometimes use the angled end, again making sure that all pressure was in line with the affected track pin. After I started using this method I stopped breaking track pins. To be fair, I will say that the majority of connecters went on without too much fuss, it was just the odd stubborn one required careful handling.

Below is a shot of the my model with both runs fitted loosely. The leftover parts, in their bags show how many connecters and track pads remained. Clearly no shorts of connecters but pleasing to have that many surplus links which can be used for spare tracks.





In summary, based on this experience these are my new favorite Sherman indy link tracks . The style of track the Sherman is fitted with means that you generally have a minimum of 3 parts per link. There have been a number of attempts in styrene which provide increasing degrees of accuracy and frustration, the worst being Model Kasten which are beautiful but have half a dozen parts per link that must be removed from the sprues and cleaned up. Bronco are almost as frustrating while at the other end of the scale AFV Club and Panda Plastics links require a bit less work. Compared to all these, this set was a breeze to put together. I was done and dusted in a couple of sessions with no impact on my sanity. The price is not too bad either at around \$25 USD plus shipping. Well worth it when compared to the competition!

## On the table at our July meeting

































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

GALLERY

**CLUB NIGHT MODELS** 

### 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.

