



Contents

Bulletin Board

1/72 Valom Vickers Wellesley

How to get a high quality airbrush
for half the price

More Photos from the 2022 na-
tionals

From the Editor

The year is rapidly slipping by and we find ourselves thinking about being in wind down mode as we head into Christmas. We have our theme build this month and next month is our annual wrap up where we encourage members to bring along what they have completed this year

The committee has begun planning for the 2023 nationals to be held in Auckland in the first weekend of October. There is a lot to do and we will be meeting more frequently in order to ensure that we keep on top of this.

NEXT MEETING

7.30 pm Tuesday 15/11/2022

Royal Oak Bowls

146 Selwyn St, Onehunga

It's Theme Build night

COMMITTEE

Chairman - Craig Sargent Dave Fish
Secretary - Brett Peacock Lance Whitford
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:
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/
ipmsauckland](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ipmsauckland)

Time to bring along those Ukraine themed models. I am hoping that that we should see quite a few models on the table for this event as the subject is topical and well supported by club members. Don't forget there are 2 main sections for this and prizes up for grabs in each. The first is for models of Ukrainian subjects and the second is for models produced from kits originating from Ukrainian manufacturers.



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

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

IPMS BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER

03 0162 0012960 00

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

EVENTS

CLUB NIGHT EVENTS

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

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

- October** 3D Printing Workshop
- November** Ukraine Theme build
- December** Christmas and end of year wind up

5 & 6 November



80th Anniversary of US Troops in NZ in WW2

WIN a medal

complete 7 of the 20+ activities and win a medal



ARMISTICE IN CAMBRIDGE

5 & 6 November, 9:30am-4:00pm **FREE ENTRY**
Mighty River Domain, Lake Karapiro

BULLETIN BOARD

CLUB SUPPORT

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

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



Modelair

349 Dominion Road
Mount Eden
Auckland
p: 09 520 1236



Cnr Market Rd & Gt South Rd
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

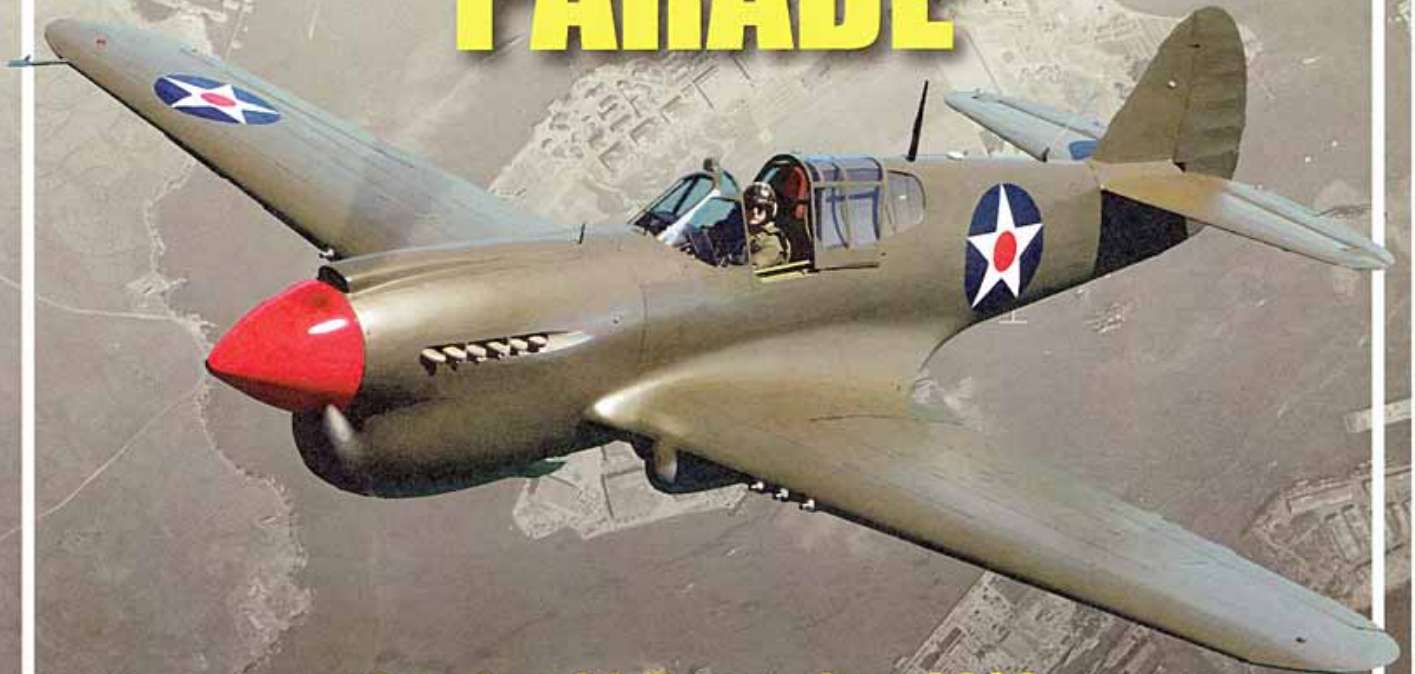


NZ Warbirds
AT ARDMORE

Presents



WARBIRDS ON PARADE



Sunday 04 December 2022
9:00am to 4:00pm Ardmore Airport
(Hamlin Road entrance only)

Commemorating Pearl Harbor with flying displays at 10:30am | 12:30pm | 2:30pm

On show: Static Aircraft / Military Vehicles / a Mock Attack / Merchandise
Food and Refreshments and so much more.

Online Tickets*: Adults \$30.00 / School Age \$7.00 / Under 5's Free / Family Pass** \$65.00

Gate Sales: Adults \$35.00 / School Age \$10.00 / Under 5's Free

*a full refund will be available if the event is cancelled in advance due to weather, please see our T&C's

** Family pass: 2 adults + 3 children - only available online.

www.nzwarbirds.org.nz



1/72 Valom Vickers Wellesley

By Mark Davies



The Kit

In my opinion, Valom's Wellesley is a definite improvement on the Matchbox kit, particularly in terms of detail. I do like Matchbox's approach to their geodetic surface detail, but feel that Valom's kit is more accurate and refined overall. Valom's major airframe parts assemble well-enough for a limited-run kit, but a fair amount of parts clean-up is required. I feel certain that the Matchbox kit would be easier to build, but I consider Valom's kit to still be worth the extra effort and expense.

This said, I have seen some fine renditions of the Matchbox kit where some extra effort has been made to address the kit's simplified detail. It's probably a matter of individual taste and inclination,

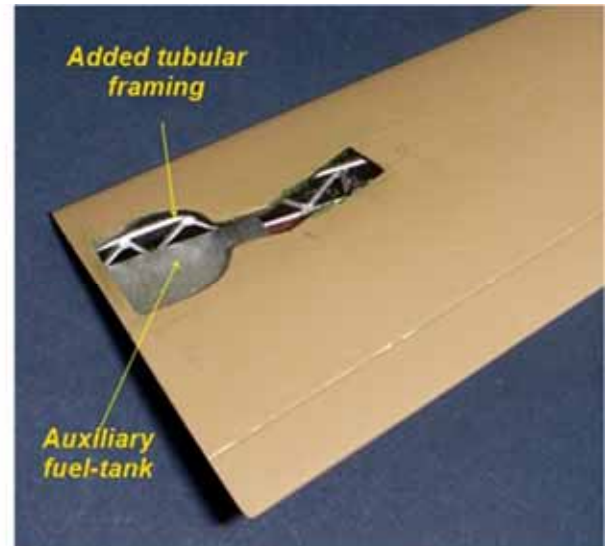
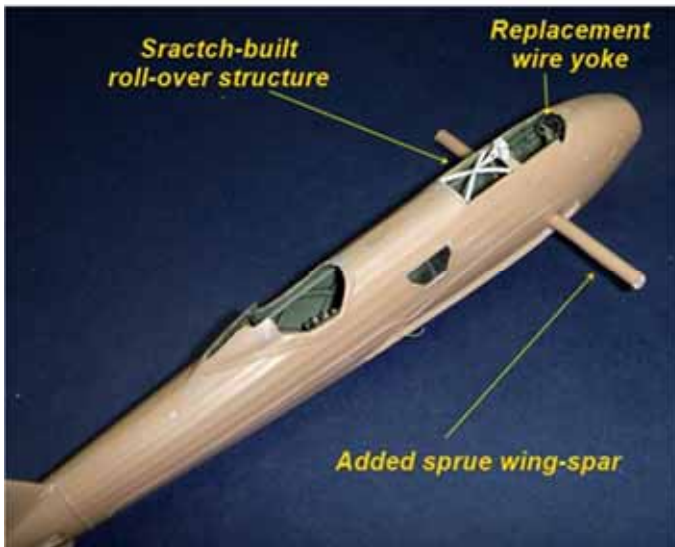


The Build

This build article is, essentially, an extract of my [online build-log](#) of July 2014, on HyperScale's 1/72 Group Build forum. In consequence, some of the embedded photo captions have typing errors I am unable to correct, as I am pretty slack when making hasty progress updates within a forum thread.

Things I did to correct or improve the kit's detail:

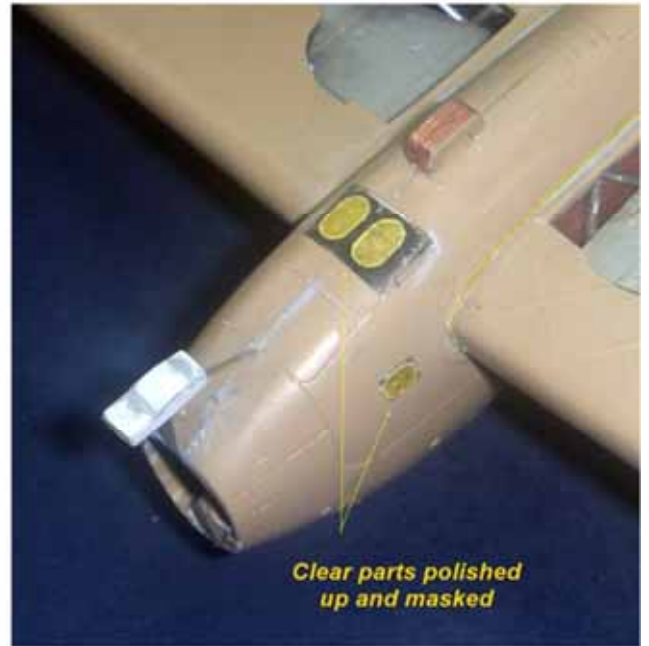
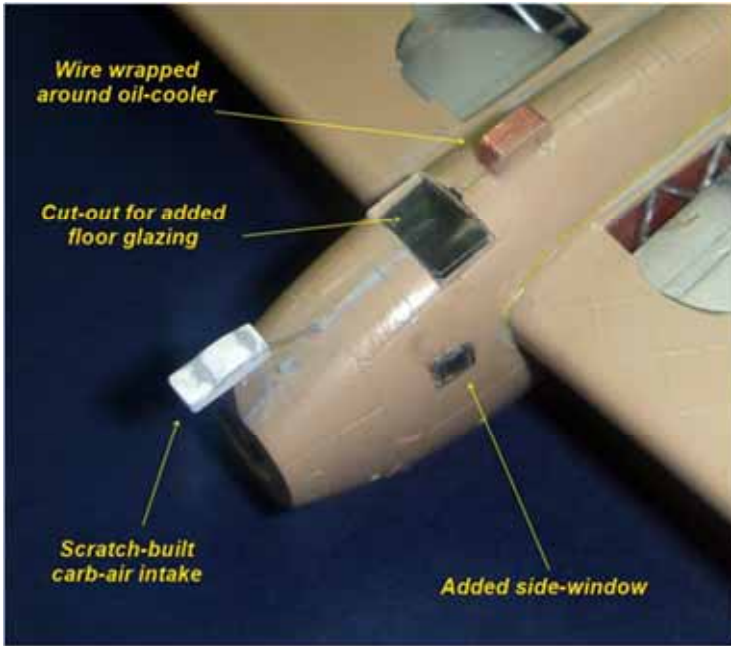
- Made a new control yoke from wire as the kit one is a little thick.
- Scratch-built the missing roll-over frame for the pilot, and the structure in the open area behind the pilot's seat.



- Added the auxiliary fuel tanks to the wheel wells, along with some plastic rod to represent the geodetic structure in this area.
- Replaced the adequate kit engine with a better resin one by Radial Engine & Wheels, although I did use the kit's PE push-rods. The cowl needed thinning out to accept the replacement. I also drilled through the collector ring and inserted rods through this into the cylinder heads to simulate the forward-flow exhaust manifold, and made an inlet manifold for the rear of the engine using lead solder.
- Made a new exhaust pipe as the kit item seemed just a little thin to me.
- Replaced the carburettor's air inlet and filter box with a scratch-built one so as to have an open mouth.



- Wound wire around the oil-cooler to simulate the cooling fins on this item.



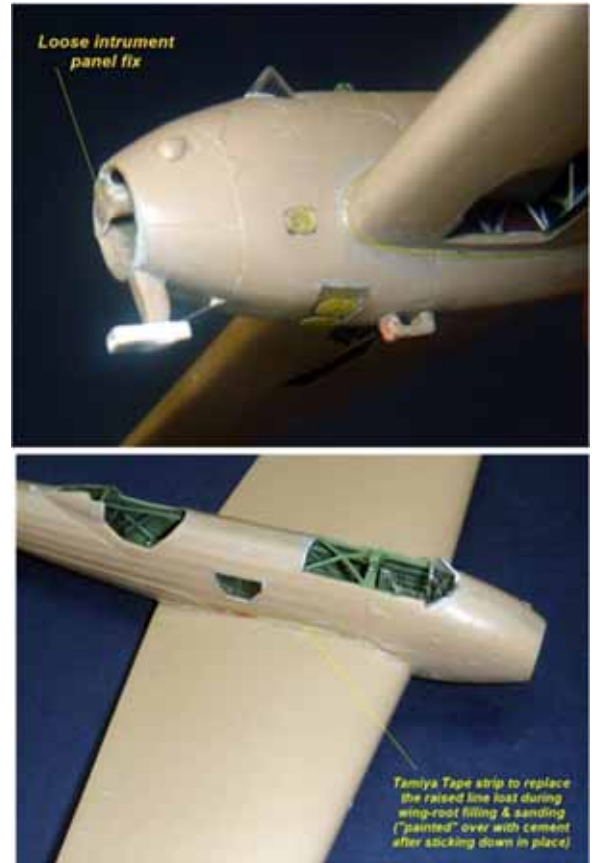
- Made two missing windows in the bottom the fuselage and two smaller ones low down on both sides of the cockpit. But don't be like me and realise this need after you have fitted the air intake and oil-filter, as the bottom windows fall between these items! I cut a panel from the fuselage underside, and used a section of clear form an Academy B-17 radio room window, which was blended in and polished. The side windows were drilled out and trimmed to shape with some clear stock inserted for the windows
- Thinned the propellor blades a little and scratch-built the hub with the pitch-change weights.



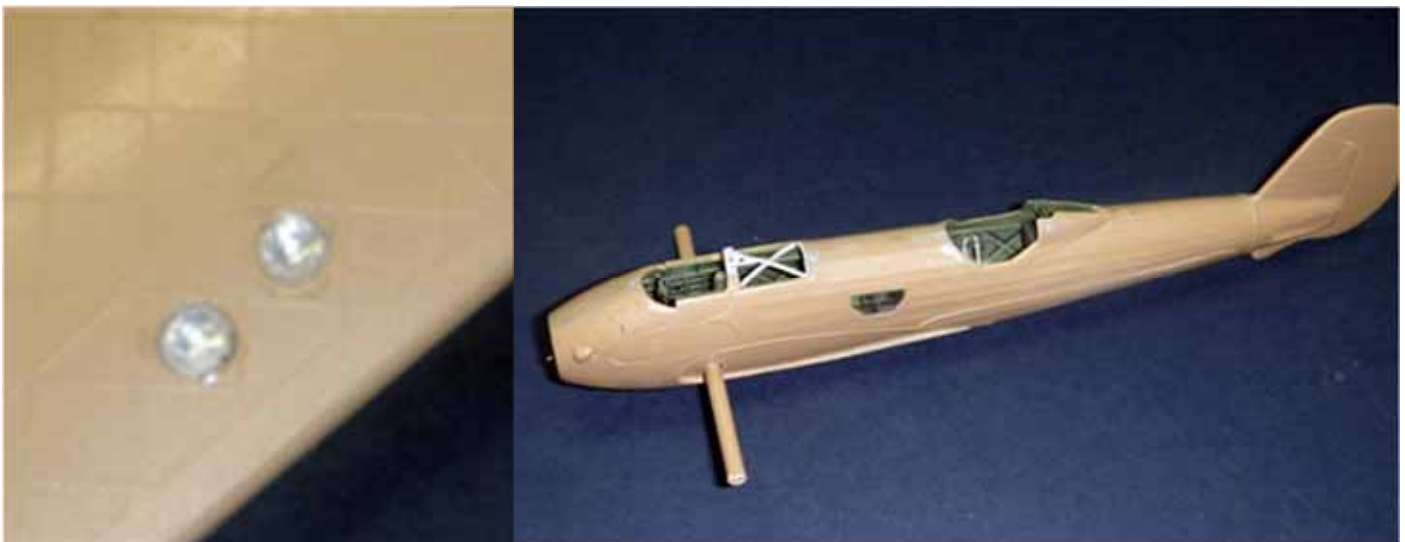
- Replaced the kit gun with a nicer one form the Italeri Ju 86 kit (which comes with good Vickers-K look-alikes).
- Added brake cylinders and lines to the undercarriage legs.
- Added wing-gun blast tube made from a hypodermic needle.

Build Issues:

- The instructional diagrams are basic and vague concerning the locations of many parts.
- The plastic is very soft, and sensitive to cement, so care is needed to avoid damaging the geodetic surface detail through inattention with solvents.
- The instrument panel is a little tight in its fit. Even so, mine dropped out after it was painted and proved very difficult to re-locate using a cut-off sprue inserted through the firewall!
- The rudder pedals need to be located nearer the control column than indicated.
- I found the wings, especially the starboard one, a bit fat in the wing roots where they slot into the fuselage. This is due to the depth of the walls of the wheel-wells. It is best to check this area in advance to avoid having to ream it out like I had to, all because I discovered the fit issue it too late. This process meant I lost the raised surround that wraps around the wing-root, and so I replaced this with a



- I also added a plastic sprue spar running under the pilot's floor to add strength to the wings.
- It helped to drill out the under-wing lights to make them deep enough for the clear covers to fit flush (I lined mine with foil to represent reflectors).



- The rear pylons of the bomb panniers are incorrectly angled to meet with the wing. I adjusted this and fitted wire pegs to mine for a more secure attachment.



- The angle that the tail-planes join the fuselage results in the elevator hinge line being swept back instead of being perpendicular to the fuselage datum; so, I trimmed the fit angle accordingly.
- The windscreen is under-size for the place it locates into or, more likely in my opinion, the place it fits is over-sized for the windscreen. I scraped and sanded away the flat step that remained in order to curve the fuselage panelling into the base of the windscreen.
- Despite having a three-piece option, the canopy is too thick to model open over the rear section (Falcon offers a vac-form canopy for the Matchbox kit that should solve this issue, however).
- The undercarriage is quite fiddly to assemble.



Painting & Decaling:

- Paint & products:

Airframe: Mr. Color Dark Green and Dark Earth lacquer, and Humbrol Matt Black enamel.

Gloss Clear Coat: Future (acrylic).

Matt Clear Coat: Cabots Matt Polyurethane Varnish.

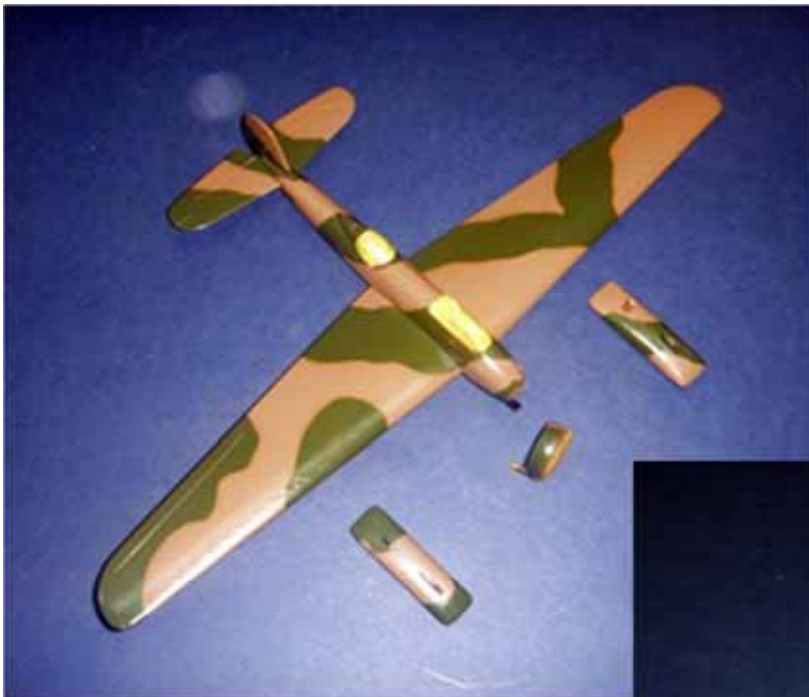
Collector-ring: Allcad II Exhaust Manifold and Pale Burnt Metal lacquer, plus rust powder & protective coat of Future.

- Decals:

The kit decals performed quite well. However, opacity of the blue on the fin-flash blue is not all that good. It is white-backed so no camo demarcation lines show through, but it's just not a 'solid' colour.

Also, both the top and bottom wing roundels were fractionally out of register on their white background with some of the white under-layer showing around the blue edge in places.

I chose to replace all of the wing roundels from my decal bank because the blue of the kit's roundels was too bright, anyway.







How to get a high quality airbrush for half the price

By Lance Whitford

This article stems from information I gleaned from the Orange Airbrush Forum and has helped me obtain backups for my most expensive airbrushes for about half the cost. It all started when I discovered that Chinese produce look-alike copies of the Iwata Custom Micron will accept various components from the Iwata brushes and that also means that parts from the Mr Hobby PS-771 will work the same. In an earlier review of the PS-771 I mentioned that the PS-771 delivers an equivalent performance to the Iwata Microns at a lower price point. The same price advantage applies to spare parts for the 771.

In order to do the basic conversion you need a compatible Chinese airbrush, a PS-771 head assembly and a new needle. I discovered that the 771 needle is within 0.002 mm diameter as virtually all Chinese needles. The base airbrush can be obtained directly from Ali Express for around \$50 including shipping. Obtaining a compatible model is crucial and the Chinese Fengda range includes models that can be used as the basis for conversion. I have successfully converted both the Fengda BD-180 and BD-208 models. The Ps-771 head assembly is around \$130 and a needle is about \$40 from Spray Gunner who are the Mr Hobby airbrush agents in the U.S. Shipping from Spray Gunner is extra but it is not exorbitant in my experience. For comparison, Spray Gunner are selling the PS-771 for around \$440 plus shipping.

In addition to the key functional changes I have also replaced the air valves on mine with PS-771 types. This is purely because I find them slightly more comfortable to use. Functionally, there is not a noticeable difference so these are not a must have. The net result is that my upgraded brushes have very similar characteristics to my PS-771

The photo below shows a stock Chinese BD-180 brush at the top and a modified version below.



The photo below shows a Fengda BD-208 with the New parts on the left and the originals on the right. The threads on the head unit may benefit from an application of Chapstick to ensure that the seal is complete as the tolerances on the Chinese airbrush body are not as fine as those on the replacement parts. The BD-208 is identical to the BD-180 other than having a compact 2ml paint cup instead of a 9ml cup. The 2 pronged needle cap is a Chinese accessory which I really like. These give excellent protection to the needle and are easy to use when doing blow back for cleaning or mixing paint in the cup. The cap is removed when doing fine work but I try to keep it on at other times to prevent needle and nozzle damage from clumsy hands. The air valves are both fitted with quick connect fittings which I love.



Below is a comparison of an original BD-208 before upgrade and the PS-771



Below is a comparison between a PS-771 and a converted BD-180



I never quite understood why the cutout in the body was there until I stumbled across a video that explained that the cutout gives access to the needle packing screw for making fine adjustments. In this case the screw has 4 accessible slots. Simply insert a flat blade from a screw driver or even the back end of an Exacto blade and you can tighten or loosen this. The needle packing screw provides a barrier to prevent liquid from escaping into the back of the airbrush and I also helps guide the needle. You don't want it to grab the needle too tightly and you certainly don't want it too loose. In practice I haven't yet had to adjust these due to the closeness in needle diameters between the originals and their replacements.





The picture on the left shows an inexpensive little tool that can also be used to install, remove or adjust a needle packing screw. A tool like these are the best way to go for these tasks on brushes that don't have the adjustment cutout which includes the vast majority of airbrushes including the PS-771.

Below is another useful and inexpensive little tool . This ones is used to adjust the spring tension inside the air valve to make the action stiffer or softer. I do this sort of adjustment on all my brushes and sometimes even shorten or replace springs to get the feel I want. A pair of needle nose pliers will work her if you don't have one of these. The tool makes it easy to completely dismantle and reassemble the valve when swapping springs.



One nice thing is that the PS-771 head assembly makes it easy to clean the nozzle interior without actually removing the delicate nozzle itself. The whole head assembly simply unscrews and a nice thing is that there are no o-rings to worry about within the unit itself. I periodically remove the heads and soak in Acetate for a while then use the tool shown below to clear out any residue. I never force the tool when doing this as I am mindful of protecting the nozzle. Just carefully sliding the nozzle in and then gently rotating the head works fine.



In summary, I have upgraded one BD-180 and 2 BD-208's and am very happy with their performance. While some of this may seem extravagant I hope that these brushes will provide good service for many years to come. In addition, I like to have backups for each type of airbrush. This means that if one goes out of service due to poor cleaning or maybe accidentally bending a needle I can clip in another and continue with my planned painting session. Another benefit is that when I switch between different types of paint I can minimize the risk of incompatible paints reacting inside the brush. (Ask me how I know that you can't use Tamiya X20A to thin AK Real Colors).

Useful Links

[Spray Gunner](#)

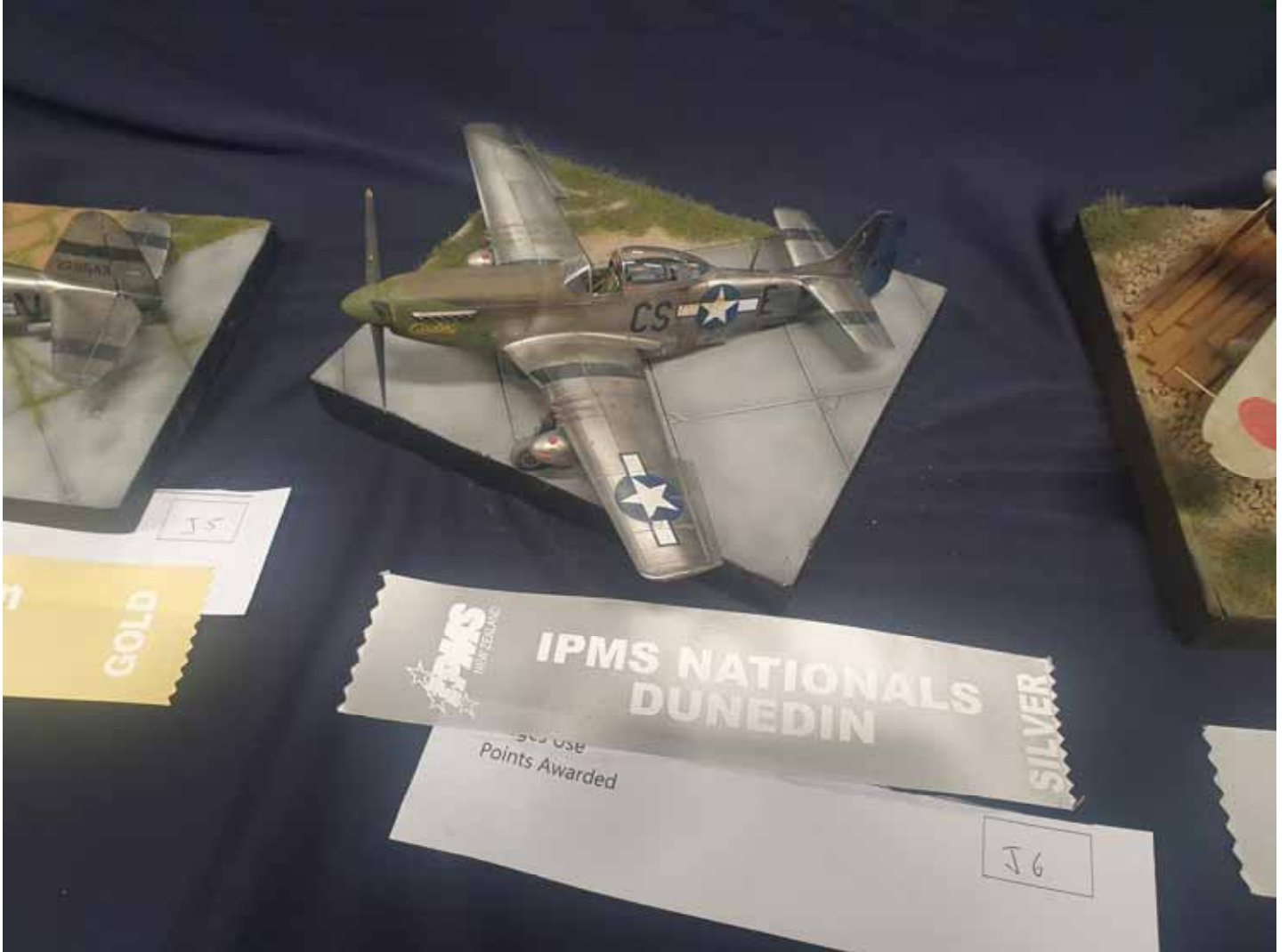
Ali Express - Fengda shop : [BD-180](#)

More Photos from the 2022 nationals

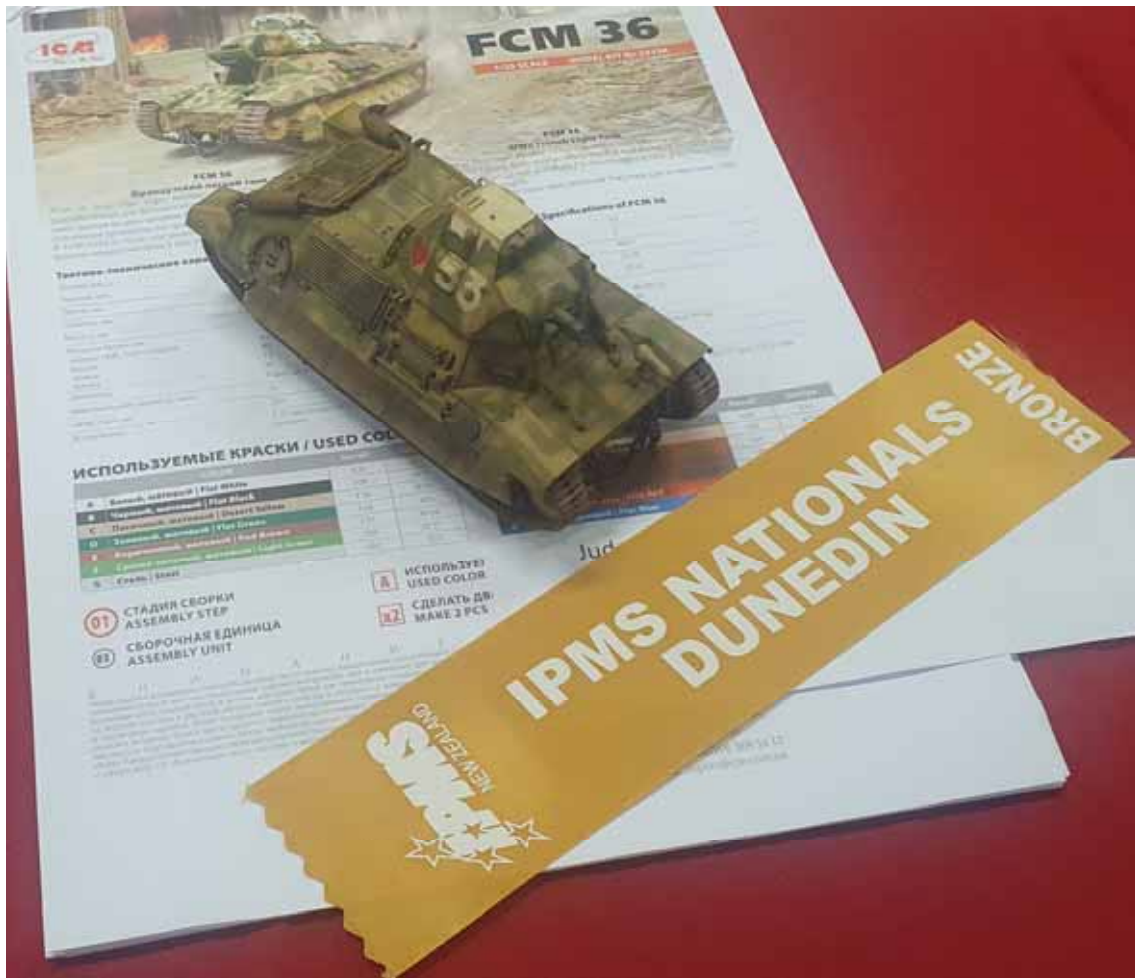


































GALLERY

CLUB NIGHT MODELS

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

<http://ipmsauckland.hobbyvista.com>



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

