

The newsletter of the Australian Plastic Modellers Association — Issue 3 2022

ABOUT SCALE VIEWS

Editor: Bill Renfrew Assistant: David Muir

Scale Views appears as a supplement to APMA, the Association's quarterly magazine. Contributions for inclusion in the magazine and newsletter are welcome from any and all members.

Submissions do not have to be camera ready; the Editorial team are happy to assist with organising and formatting text and drawings based on your drafts.

To submit material for inclusion in Scale Views contact the staff at apma.newsletter@gmail.com, see us at a meeting, contact Bill via his personal e-mail wjrenfrew@gmail.com or send correspondence to the Secretary, PO Box 464, Cremorne, NSW 2090.

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the members or committee of the Australian Plastic Modellers Association or of the Newsletter Editorial team.

APMA MEETINGS

APMA meets monthly (usually on the second Saturday) at Gladesville Sporties Club, 181A Ryde Road, Gladesville NSW

For meeting details visit the APMA web site at: http://apma,org.au

NEXT MEETING: JULY 9 @ Noon

2022 Committee

<u>President</u> – Lindsay Charman <u>Vice President</u> – Simon Wolff Secretary - Vacant <u>Treasurer</u> – Lindsay Charman 5th Committeeman – Malcolm Armour

EDITORIAL RAMBLINGS

Welcome to the third of our Newsletters for 2022. We hope you have enjoyed our offerings and invite you to contribute an article - any article - for the next 2022 Newsletter.

BR & DM

This issue marks my last-but-one in the Ass Ed's seat.

APMA's publications have always been a key component of our club; the one factor that distinguishes it from all the others, that helps us communicate and brings us together with a place to share our passion for plastic. This has been especially true over the last couple of years as the Plague shut down our meetings and shows.

My stint in the co-driver's seat has been made interesting and enjoyable thanks to contributions to the Newsletter from: Ian Wrenford, Dave Clark, Lindsay Charman, Ben Courreges, Roger Clark, John Sobieski, Chris Cole, Pete Johnson, Ken Taylor, Graham Carter, Barry Cockayne, Mike Robinson, Syrme Lipavken, Dave Richardson, Peter Webster, Csaba Ubaznek as well as our "regulars" Joe Turner, Simon Wolff, Ley Reynolds and of course Bill. My grateful thanks and appreciation go to all of them.

You will notice that this list reflects the efforts of only a small fraction of our membership and even less if the reviews from the half dozen non-members (highlighted above in bold) who were press ganged and very generously helped out are deleted. And, sadly, the list is even shorter for those who contribute to the Magazine.

Despite most members happily and endlessly talking about their models and techniques at meetings (and even more so online) I was surprised and disappointed at the number of members declined to share their knowledge and skills with their club mates and flat refused to contribute anything to either publication.

To those whose names are not on the above list: it is time for you - yes YOU - to pull your finger out and write an article or a review. It is not hard and if we had just one from each person our editors would be ecstatic, our publications would be fuller and richer and our members even better informed and entertained. So...DO IT NOW!!!

Farewell and thanks for all the fish...

DM

The Australian Plastic Modellers Association is supported by the following:



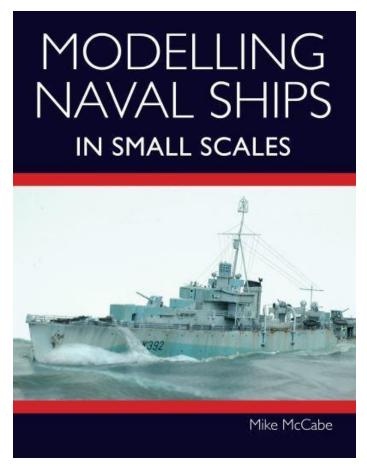




BOOK REVIEWS

MODELLING NAVAL SHIPS IN SMALL SCALES

By Mike McCabe Crowood Press Ltd 2021 ISBN978 1 78500 850 4 Reviewed by Pete Johnson



Books abound for ship modelling in the larger scales but are surprisingly rare in the 'miniature' scales, i.e. (say) from 1/400 and smaller. Donald McNarry's venerable but excellent 'Ship Models in Miniature' is the bible for those working with traditional materials (such as timber and wire) and obscure British adhesives (such as Ambroid) but predates current methods and technologies by many, many decades. David Griffith's 'Ship Models from Kits' was published back in 2010 and while it covers the advent of PE and resin it was published long before the explosion of excellent 1/700 and 1/350 scale kits onto the market from Asia over the last few years.

Mike McCabe is the proprietor of resin kit producer Starling Models and is a very skilled model maker and well placed to fill the gap and update the literature with his newly released guide. The contents are presented in eleven chapters beginning with an introduction to scale(s), types of kits, full hull verses waterline and accessories.

The reader is then lead through progressive stages, starting with an out-of-the-box build (Dragon, HMS *Daring* 1/700), then an enhanced kit (Aoshima, USS *Wasp* 1/700) followed by a resin kit (Starling Models, HMS *Nadder* 1/350) and ultimately on to an advanced build (Academy, *Admiral Graf Spey* 1/350) with upgrades and corrections. Interspersed are chapters on painting and weathering, Scale Views – Issue 3 2022

masts and rigging, bases and lastly on display and photography. The chapters and the sections within them are logically ordered, making for easily read, digested and understood lessons and straight forward and orderly development of skills...a textbook textbook!

The book is laid out in two column format with the occasional magazine style 'breakout' in single column format used to highlight particular that are important but a bit out of the general sequence of the books sections. I cannot say I am a fan of the modern fad for littering the text with 'breakouts' (particularly when the text is overlaid with a lurid electric blue as in this one) and am thankful there are only a small number of them. However, the rest of the design is very clear, easily navigated and deserves praise.

While the book caters for the neophyte modeller by starting with the very basics it does cover and describe some methods and techniques that will be new and/or unusual to even relatively experienced practitioners. Good examples are his discussions on soldering and making parts using CA stiffened and folded paper. His practice of setting out the thinking and reasons behind his decisions helps the reader to understand his methods and techniques.

The chapter on Water Bases draws on the author's exceptional skill at placing his models in amazingly realistic seascapes. He makes a very convincing case for <u>all</u> 1/700 models to be waterlined then steps you through the process he uses to make both calm and rough "water" and the unique wave and wake forms made by submarines. His depiction of ships in heavy seas (all too often over exaggerated by modellers and usually the least convincing aspect of the entire model) is a brilliant lesson in how it should be done.

The size of the book (144 quarto sized pages) allows for all the key issues to be addressed but obviously limits what could be included. For instance there is no discussion of scratchbuilding major components such as hulls and main superstructure in styrene sheet, just using it as filler or as replacement for things like overly thick kit bulwarks. Probably for the same reason the coverage of display cases (for which there are now multiple options widely available off the shelf) is somewhat cursory as is appropriate for such a secondary aspect of the subject.

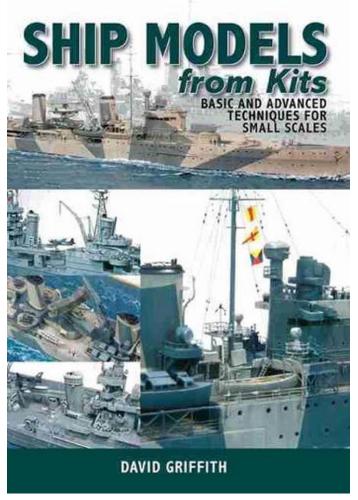
The chapter on photography similarly skims the surface of an admittedly vast subject but does at least give the reader a basic grounding in this black art. Like all the chapters this one is illustrated with very clear full colour images with readily understood captions positioned alongside or within their relevant sections. Roughly half (I did not count!) of the images are presented in single column format, the balance are spread over two columns; both work well.

Any "newbie" ship modeller who follows the process set out in this book - and practices what it preaches - will inevitably build both his or her skills and a collection of satisfyingly competent models. In my view Mike McCabe's words and images on how to make seascapes are worth the price of admission on their own. 'Breakouts' aside there is nothing to criticise and much to applaud in this volume and it is a very welcome addition to the literature about this genre.

This is an excellent and HIGHLY RECOMMENDED book

SHIP MODELS from Kits BASIC AND ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR SMALL SCALES

By David Griffith Seaforth Publishing (Pen and Sword Ltd) 1st Edition 2011 reprinted in 2013, 2015, 2018 and 2020 ISBN 978 1 84832 091 8 Reviewed by Pete Johnson



This is one of the first (if not the very first) of the modern era books about building miniature ships in plastics. It post-dates the introduction of resin as an alternative to styrene and the wide spread use of photo etching for detail parts. Although it has been reprinted several times its coverage stops short of the explosion in the last few years of 1/700 and 1/350 scale kits and accessories from manufacturers in China, Japan and, to a lesser extent, Hong Kong.

David Griffith is a very skilled model maker who has won many trophies and awards at shows in his native UK and at the IPMS USA Nationals. As one of the preeminent ship modelers that are currently active in this field he is well equipped to pass on his considerable experience and large body of knowledge about building materials, methods and strategies for ship miniatures.

The 144 soft bound quarto pages of its contents are presented as ten chapters plus an Introduction, a note on photographs, a gallery of his models and an Appendix listing dealers and suppliers. The structure is simple and logical with the chapters, apart from a couple of exceptions, being around ten pages long. The layout is excellent: two column text and full colour images with double width images deployed as dictated by the content.

Chapter 1 is a survey of styrene and resin manufactures and aftermarket suppliers before advising how to select a model to best suit your skill level. As noted above all the surveyed firms are either mainstream or relatively well known with no coverage of the more recent and productive players from Asia such as Flyhawk. Chapter 2 looks at references and resources for use with them. The ones suggested are all solid and reliable, if slightly dated printed books, but he also includes a useful list of online sites.

Chapter 3 covers tools, techniques and materials, the bulk of which most modellers will know about and/or already have in their tool boxes. The next two chapters are devoted to basic construction in styrene (Chapter 4) and resin (Chapter 5) and again most modellers will be familiar with much of the process. However, he does introduce some more unusual/obscure techniques such as soldering and plaiting or braiding wire to represent anchor chain.

Chapter 6 about adding detail to smaller parts and Chapter 7 about assembling the finished components and Chapter 8 on painting and weathering are again fairly conventional. Like all the content to this point they include good and invaluable advice and insights into the author's approach and thinking. The clear and straightforward layout and the appropriate image selections make understanding his points and following his process easy and enlightening.

The next two chapters are the real gems in this volume. David Griffiths is renowned in this field for his accurate and immaculately executed rigging and in Chapter 9 he shows you how it can be done. Materials, glues and processes are all revealed including how to make caged aerials in 1/700. This chapter alone is worth the purchase price.

The last chapter before the gallery deals with presentation, i.e. bases and dioramas. As noted above there is great information on materials and their use but more importantly he discusses the aesthetic considerations that underpin his approach, all very informative, helpful and practical advice.

Apart from their subject matter there are similarities (number of pages, basic structure, etc) between this book and Mike McCabe's more recent "Modelling Naval Ships in Small Scales" that inevitably invite comparison. Both share an obvious enthusiasm for their art and a knack for explaining it well to others. The similarities are perhaps not surprising as they appear to know each other; indeed examples of McCabe's work appear in this book. While they share much common ground they each have slightly different viewpoints and a couple of different strong points.

Without doubt McCabe has mastered the art of making and depicting water and his guidance on how to do it is in a class all of its own. Although it is a close run thing in my view he also is very marginally better at painting and weathering. Conversely David Griffiths excels at rigging and dioramas and his guidance in this volume is equally unique and informative. And, again, his painting and weathering is world class; the difference largely being a personal one of having a preferred taste and style.

Choosing between the two volumes is almost impossible as each is a more than worthy addition to any library and to some extent they complement rather than duplicate each other. The dilemma of selecting just one is not easily resolved so I strongly suggest you buy both.

This is an excellent and HIGHLY RECOMMENDED book.

1975 HESKETH 308 1/12 SCALE

By Mark R. Oakley Track Limits Publishing; second edition Reviewed by David Muir



Volume 1: **1975 HESKETH 308** 1/12 scale Mark R. Oakley

This book was first vanity published by Mark R. Oakley in 2014 using one of the on line services that convert your holiday snaps into books. This second edition was recently released by TrackLimits and, publishers branding aside, it appears to be largely unchanged from the first edition.

As a committed Christian the author cites 'glorifying God' as one of the main purposes of this book. As I don't believe in imaginary omniscient beings, find the disparity between hugely and extravagantly wealthy churches and their impoverished believers obscene and their systemic abuse of children abhorrent I may not be the best person to review this book...but I will give it a try.

First the simple stuff. This volume has 70 pages hardbound in A4 landscape page format. The layout is somewhat haphazard, sometimes in two column, sometimes three, sometimes with lapped images but mostly unlapped. The landscape format is itself a pain in the backside as it does not fit standard bookcase depths and must either overhang the shelf edge or be stored "on its end" with the spine therefor unreadable. Cover imagery aside, the graphics reflect their 'holiday snap album' amateur aesthetic beginnings with lilac faded edges to each page and multi coloured red and blue pagination and headings.

It covers one of Oakley's first 1/12 scale Formula One builds that he started in the late 1990s and finished in the early 2000s. The subject is as the title says: the well-known Hesketh 308 as used by James Hunt in 1975, there being no real discussion of the long and interesting subsequent career that the type had in privateer hands including races with our own Alan Jones in some of his first GP drives.

Roughly one third of the pages are devoted to images of the 1:1 scale car and of these roughly half are devoted to detail shots and half to overall views. The former and one or two of the latter are OK and useful, the rest are a waste of space. The balance is largely given over to modelling with the exception of some sixteen (23%) or so pages spent on side considerations; eg describing people the author met, his correspondence with them, magazines he has appeared in and the like.

The typography is poorly selected and designed with the body text and captioning in the same font and the latter randomly placed above, below or beside the images it describes. The lack of a consistent layout means that a lot of space is wasted heading each caption with location Scale Views — Issue 3 2022

directions and making for awkward reading as you need to sort out what is text, what is caption and if the latter, to what it refers. The captions themselves are brief and often add nothing to the image, being statements of what is obvious to the reader or introducing irrelevant information about some other, unrelated aspect that is not in the image.

The text is very repetitive and I rapidly got sick of reading again and again about people he met. Much of it is also irrelevant to modelling the car – I really did not need to hear what he had for lunch when he met Lord Hesketh. Nor to read the grovelingly obsequious begging letters with those he approached for assistance. It also misses out a lot of material that could have been included. A history of the cars and their many interesting liveries post their F1 days when in the hands of Jones (Stiller Racing), Guy Edwards (Penthouse/Rizla) and Harald Ertl (Warsteiner and Heyco) would have enriched the history and broadened the possible colour schemes and hence the book's appeal.

Mark Oakley's model was built pre-internet and was based on very limited information; a 1/43 drawing and a small group of photos. Consequently much of it had to be 'guesstimated' and a lot proved to be inaccurate both during construction and after it was completed. Accordingly the photos of the model and its parts during the build need to be viewed and used with great deal of caution.

Materials and methods are discussed in just three half pages with only superficial further discussion about the major components of the model. None of it is particularly innovative or revealing. The basic tub is made from simple flat or single curvature sheet, needing no explanation; the cockpit surround, snorkel intake and nose are complex shapes which do need a thorough explanation to as to how they were made. Sadly they don't get it in this book.

This book really cries out for professional inputs from an experienced editor, graphic and/or publication designer to address its many shortcomings, all of which stem from its amateur/vanity publication beginnings. The Komakai *Fast Guide*, MFH *Joe Honda Racing Pictorial* and San-El Shobo *GP Car Story* series of monographs each show how this type of volume can and should be done. All the books in these series are well laid out and formatted and need little or no text to be easily understood and read while supplying excellent material for anyone building models.

The only somewhat useful part of this volume are the detail photos of the full size car parts. However, half an hour with a decent on line search engine will provide you with more and better images, a longer and more complete history of the type and a far better copy of Roger Taylor's 1976 drawing (and in 1/24 scale) that was the basis of Oakley's model. And another hour or two on YouTube will show and teach you vastly more about modelling race car bodywork, how to build your own suspensions and the like. All of this is available for just a few, if any, dollars rather than purchasing this volume for its around AU\$50 price.

The subject of this book is certainly worth a detailed study of its design and history and would definitely make an interesting and educational example for a blow-by-blow account of replicating it in miniature. Sadly this book does neither and, worse, time has passed it by. Like the Curate's Egg, it is only good in parts so I cannot recommend it.

Review book kindly provided by Platypus Publications.

KIT AND PRODUCT REVIEWS

De HAVILLAND DH.88 COMET

SBS Model Kit SBS700S in 1/72 scale Reviewed by Ben Courreges

SBS have issued four boxings of their DH.88 Comet kit in 1/72. Each boxing has different decals and a couple have very minor differences in some of their parts. The sets are:

- -'Red & Green' (SBS-7003) with decals for G-ACSS and G-ACSR in the MacRobertson race,
- -'Blacks' (SBS-7004) with decals for G-ACSP in the MacRobertson and CS-AAJ in Portugal in 1937.
- -'Australia' (SBS7006) with decals for three variants on G-ACSS in the late 1930s and one for G-ADEF in 1935... and the review sample which is...
- -'French & RAF' which has decals for F-ANPY, F-ANPZ and H6-09 in the Armee de'l Air and K-5084 with the RAF.



Sorted into resealable poly bags there are some 68 parts that are common to all of the four boxings; 35 grey resin, 2 clear resin, 1 clear film for the instrument panel sandwich, 6 white metal plus 24 brass parts on a small PE fret. 7003 and 7004 have just the standard parts; 7006 has five extras specific to those versions. The review boxing (SBS700S) has 6 more on a second PE fret and another 6 grey resin parts that cover the detail changes made to the French aircraft and to G-ACSS later in its life.

The instructions are in the usual SBS layout of one double sided A4 sheet with clear diagrams and a parts map. Omitted from both is any mention of the modified tailcone that is provided for the French and RAF versions; discard the 'common' version so you don't confuse the two as the tail skid only fits the modified part.

The design and engineering of these kits is a little unusual and takes full advantage of the best current resin casting technology. The fuselage is conventionally split vertically but the cockpit floor and the centre section (and wing roots) are separate and slide in from below. The engine nacelles are in one piece per side and still manage to have more than adequate detail inside their wells and intakes.

The castings themselves are excellent with no bubbles or short shots. The smaller and more delicate parts are Scale Views — Issue 3 2022

attached to blocks and protected from any accidental damage with arms and walls cast integrally with their base block. The surface finish is smooth and blemish free and has subtle rib and fabric contouring and very thin trailing edges. Both the wings in the review sample have slight bows, something not unexpected given how slender they are. Some gentle bending and a little hot water or hair drier heat made short work of getting them straight.

Internally there is a wealth of detail to be added; compasses, seats, belts, joy sticks, pedals and engine controls are all provided and are to a very high standard indeed. As usual SBS omit any colour call outs or any advice as to the colours and finishes of the interior. The only issue is that both are slightly controversial online and at this stage unconfirmed. This is a pity as this is an exceptionally well done pair of cockpits with excellent detail and nice photo etching and they deserve appropriate finishing. Search Britmodeller for 'SBS DH88 Comet, interior color question' for what is probably the most informed and reasonably rational discussion available.

These are SBS kits so everything is to an exemplary and extremely high standard. Bin your old Airfix Comets and buy these; they are VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.







PEGASUS CLASS HYDROFOIL

Orange Hobby Kit NO-058-168 in 1/350 Reviewed by Pete Johnson



BLUE series

专业·尽显模型之美

Conceived in the early 1970s and championed by Admiral Zumwalt (the then CNO of the US Navy) the Pegasus class PHMs were intended to take over the roles filled by destroyers and frigates in coastal waters. Up to 100 boats were planned for use by the USN and its NATO allies, notably the UK, Germany, Italy and Canada.

With Zumwalt's retirement, and despite funding for the first six boats having been approved in 1973 and 1974, the project stalled in 1974 with just one (PHM-1 USS Pegasus) partially completed. Congressional pressure forced the program to be restarted in 1977 (sans the participation of the other nations) with the last of the six being commissioned in 1982. Based out of Key West in Florida they served in various roles including drug runner interdiction into the early 1990s with the last being decommissioned in 1993.

THE MODEL

Packaging for this one is a little unusual being a generic Orange Hobby 220 x 65 x 50 end opening white box with a glossy card wrapper giving particulars for the kit. Rolled inside that are six pages (3 x double sided A4) of instructions made up of five of assembly diagrams and one of painting guidance. All are clear and about as unambiguous as "diagrams and pictograms only" can be but are still slightly confusing at first glance. As always it pays to study and check to make sure the bits are going in the places Orange Hobby intended.

Tucked inside the instructions are four bubble wrapped packages; three contain the resin port and starboard hull halves and the combined deck/superstructure. Inside the fourth is a heat sealed envelope with the balance of the 50 resin parts. The castings are simply superb; there are no flash, smooth surfaces, no blemishes, small well placed gates and impressive and very crisp detail. The deck and hull halves even have stiffening ribs cast on its under/inner side to keep them flat and with the correct sheer. The bridge windows are cast in the same grey and need to be painted. Removing everything above the sill and replacing it with a laminate of clear sheet topped with the roof salvaged from the kit bit is easy to do and looks much better than even the best painted bridge unit.

Parts are provided and engineered to allow you to model any of the six PHMs with their foils deployed or retracted as they would be in dock. Displaying the boat in either configuration requires a little thought as having it waterlined with the legs retracted does not do the hydrofoil concept justice. "Waterlined while foiling" would be best, especially if the foils could still be visible under the 'water'. Inspired by Dave Muir's Russian Sarancha Class PHM (see APMA 2/1984) I plan to do mine that way, i.e. 'flying' over a 'sea' built up in layers of tinted and clear resin.

The detail parts in resin are equally as good as the big bits, being perfectly cast and clearly marked and numbered. Surface detailing is extensive and some of it (eg things like life rings and fire hoses) will be challenging to paint. Unless you have a very steady hand it may be better to make replacements and paint them separately. A nice touch is a turned brass barrel cast integrally with its breach and pivot and another eight turned brass pieces for the Harpoon missile tubes. The (almost literal) crowning glory is a beautiful turned aluminium radome.

Rounding out the parts are two brass PE frets with some 80 parts covering a full set of railings, masts, yards, radars, missile launcher bases, water tight doors and hatches (both open and closed), windscreen wipers(!), engine air intake louvres and cable reels. The latter are folded up and then dressed with a styrene rod 'shaft' and 0.1mm copper wire, both of which are supplied.

A small (thanks to its scale) but reasonably complete decal sheet is included with pennant numbers and names for all six HPMs plus depth, thruster and deck markings sufficient to finish one boat. The two-tone numerals and the tiny American flag are in perfect register. In keeping with USN traditions the boats displayed various efficiency and unit citations, typically on the ends of their bridges. None are provided in this kit so you will need to find some tiny letters in your spares box. The green 'marijuana leaf on a white square' mission marks will no doubt be harder to source and you will probably have to hand paint them.

While on the question of painting Orange Hobby's colour guide is both incomplete and generic, citing only 'Light gray' and 'Dark gray' for the main colours and omitting most of the detail colours. It should also be noted that PHM hulls below the black boot topping were reportedly left as bare alloy, i.e. a light silver grey. On line images suggest that varied a bit between near white to a very slightly bronze tinted silver shade for the hulls with deeper and darker tones on the foils and their legs. Similarly the radome that is referenced as white by OH appears to the same grey as the upperworks on all bar USS *Pegasus*.

There are a number of small differences between the six boats. Things to watch out for include the radar fit, for example PHM-2 Hercules had a second small dome in place of its rotating bar on the foremast and what looks like a sidescan radar on both sides of its superstructure. The number of Harpoon missiles (1, 2, 3, or 4) on board at any one time varies from boat to boat; Orange Hobby supply the variations but give no guidance as to which applies to what. NavSource is a useful source for photos these craft. (see www.navsource.org/archives/12/16idx) and is a great reference for adding the relatively simple rigging that runs between the mast and the aft end of the superstructure and the top of the exhaust. Similarly there are a collection of aerials and do-dads on the bridgehead, mast and radome support, all of which are fun to add and enhance what is already a very well executed miniature.

An excellent and therefore HIGHLY RECOMMENDED kit.

BEDFORD QL TANKER

Accurate Armour Kit No 0K48012 in 1/48 Reviewed by Clive Ferris

Accurate Armour are a long established Scottish maker of full resin kits and conversions for 1/35 and 1/48 scale military vehicles. Primarily (but not exclusively) they make British subjects and there are over 200 kits in their 35th scale range and another 17 or so in 48th scale. The latter includes three Bedford based refuellers. Two (K48003 and K48009) depict the late production variant with a single rear compartment enclosed by round topped doors. This one depicts the earlier (mid-production) version with one rear compartment enclosed with chamfered flat topped doors and two lockers behind the rear wheels.



The kit is packed in one of those stout front and top flapped boxes so beloved by the better quality short run resin manufacturers, with the parts sorted into four zip lock bags. One has the larger bits, one has the medium bits, one has all the smaller detail parts and the last one has the PE, a sheet of clear plastic, the decals, a short length of styrene rod and some brass wire plus a piece of PVC cord for the hoses. There are 63 parts cast in grey Polyurethane, a further 21 parts in brass PE sheet and four more in the rod, wire, sheet and cord.

While the kit includes instructions on how best to deal with any pin holes there are none visible in my example. The Poly resin parts are cleanly moulded although most have small amounts of thin, easily removed flash. The smaller parts are arranged and cast along pouring bars rather than short pouring blocks. Thus they are easier to hold when cutting the parts free but it does complicate the removal of the long items which therefore need a little more patience.

The parts provide plenty of detail; the pumps, controls and reels are little gems in their own right and fill out their stowage compartments nicely. Also noteworthy are the funnels which are cast as a single piece and have beautifully thin walls and pre-drilled spouts. If you want to model a QL with its doors open and all that lovely detail visible you will need to blank off the backs and sides of the lockers with sheet styrene to stop any "see through" effect. Remember to do this while you have ready access and before you join the halves and close up the back.

There are some nice touches in the engineering of this kit. For example the cabinet doors are provided in brass PE with the rear ones being laminated from two parts to depict the internal framing. One (the right hand/driver's side) of

the rear doors is half etched to show its framing but, oddly the other left hand one has no framing. This is possibly because its other face is half etched to represent the louvres that were on that side. Using the other one as a guide it should be easy enough to add the framing.

One minor error is that the 0.88mm styrene rod provided is just 27mm long and way too short for the tasks for which it is meant to be used. The instructions say that you need 20mm (for the 2 x 10mm shock absorbers) plus 15mm for the steering column plus around 25mm for the front bumper...say 65mm all up. Some similarly sized styrene rod or a couple of pieces of sleaved stainless steel or aluminium tube will make for stronger and more convincing shock absorbers. Brass or copper wire is much easier to form and shape for the bumper.

The instructions are in the form of two double sided A4 pages. One side has advice on safety, glues, procedure for working with the parts, basic assembly, colours and markings and a parts list but no map or diagram to help identify the parts. The second side has photos showing progressive sub-assemblies (each annotated with part numbers) indicating where everything should go. On balance the instructions are useful if a touch minimalist; the safety and general procedures for working with resin are worth reminding ourselves about from time to time.

However, the lack of colour advice for the details (eg the insides of the stowage cabinets and cab) is disappointing. Conversely the notes within the second page images that highlight potential pitfalls are clear and very useful. My instinct and usual practice to clean everything up – then assemble – would have been the wrong way to go for the cab; the notes warn you to cut out the windscreen flash AFTER the cab is assembled, not before so that it all fits as intended. This does complicate the sequence of preparation, assembly and painting and means that the cab will need some careful and well timed masking.

The small 50 x 70mm decal sheet has a representative selection of vehicle numbers, Command markings, type numbers, roundels, a bridge plate and a couple of pump data sheets to go on a clipboard (not provided) inside the cabinet doors. Research suggests that there should also be an extinguisher and a second (white on red) warning notice inside both doors to the side lockers.

Some of the QL cabs did not have the raised circular antiaircraft hatch over the passenger's seat as provided by AA; it is a simple task to cut it off and infill it with sheet if your subject requires a 'solid' roof. Otherwise the conversion potential in this kit is mainly around colour schemes; this variant served widely (Europe, the Middle East, Burma and even in PNG) and wore all the 'standard' RAF liveries (Khaki Green No 3, S.C.C.2 'Brown', 'Brown' with Black and later Olive Drab) at one time or another. Added to which are the many extemporised camouflage schemes including those applied when serving with the RAAF's 3 and 450 Squadrons in North Africa and Italy.

Accurate Armour's Bedford tanker is an impressive piece of work – which is not surprising as it was designed by David Jane with some input from Derek Hansen and is manufactured by a firm with plenty of experience in exactly this type and style of kit. Consequently I have no hesitation in recommending this excellent kit to anyone who would like one in their collection.

SKULL CLAN – DEATH ANGELS (Desert Battle Series)

Master Box MB35122 in 1/35 Reviewed by Lindsay Charman



I reckon this is a brilliant set of four plastic figures – and it's totally unlike any sort of plastic figure sets I have attempted to make before. They represent a sort of fictitious, (or perhaps speculative) post-apocalyptic group of female warriors, appearing to be somewhat reminiscent of some of the characters in the Mad Max series of films. The box art states that the sculpting is by A. Gagarin, and Master Box are made in the Ukraine.

I should make clear that it has been some time since I last made and painted a polystyrene figurine in 1/35 or 1/32, and I am quite out of practice. I obtained this set in a Swap/Sell or auction for a fairly small cost, so my intention was to have a bit of practice with these, because if I mucked them up it would be no great emotional or material loss to me, and might well be good practice for a bunch of other figures I am making in circumstances where I really don't want to stuff them up.

Each figure has quite a few parts, and they are a little complex to assemble, but they are very well designed so fit is excellent and no issues arose in construction. However, the chain-mail, solid metal and leather-like armour, straps and webbing on the figures is a complex mix of modern military and something rather 'Gladiator' like equipment. The weapons are similar, being a mix of medieval samurai, and modern sport crossbow – so mainly swords, knives, a nasty toothed scythe and 'mace' type thing. The figures are rather lean, presumably supposed to be fit in a modern fashionable 'Barbie' kind of way, and seem quite petite, so the clothing and weaponry really dominate the figures.

This makes them, perhaps, a little too complicated to paint for a learning exercise for me. So I set about removing a fair bit of the complex armour and straps, leaving what I hope will be simpler painting subjects. While I was at it, I swapped two heads around, and modified these a bit. As supplied, one figure had a 1980s style Mohawk hairdo, and another was something that looked vaguely Bedouin head-dress, or perhaps Napoleonic nurse-like cap to me. The Mohawk girl became an almost bald buzz-cut hairdo, while the nurse had her headgear turned into hair.

Kneepads, spaulders, webbing, straps, pouches, bags and bracer-like arm guards were mostly all removed, which $Scale\ Views-lssue\ 3\ 2022$

involved a bit of carving and sanding. This turned out to be good training too, as the remains of arms, shoulders, heads and legs all needed a bit of filling and sanding to restore what looked anatomically more satisfactory.

I was reasonably pleased with the end result of these modifications although the muscle and bone detail that should perhaps have been visible was a bit beyond me, so anatomically the figures look a little bland now. Perhaps next time I can practice this sort of modification.

My intention is to largely replace, modify or at least supplement the kit weaponry with some more recent 20th or 21st century small arms, for which I already have some sniper rifles, pistols, knives and M4 carbines. I might also equip them with a Minimi and a recoilless bazooka type weapon, but that might be going a bit too far. I might yet scratchbuild a MAC10 and an Uzi as some of the swords are moulded into arms and hands that look they could be wielding a suitable small sized sub-machine gun.

The set is very good in terms of sculpture, detailing and posing and anatomically they look extremely convincing compared to the Airfix 1/32 and Tamiya or Dragon 1/35 figures I used to make and paint. Consequently I can really recommend this set.

There are several other 1/35 companion figure sets by Master Box, including:

Skull Clan – New Amazons – This is not the place for strangers! (MB35199) – five female figures

Skull Clan – New Amazons – Give it back! This is my booty! (MB35202) – five female figures

Skull Clan - To catch a thief (MB35140) - one motor bike/side car, two male figures and one female figure

Skull Clan – Long-distance raid – Where am I? Splinter (MB35215) – one young female figure and a dog

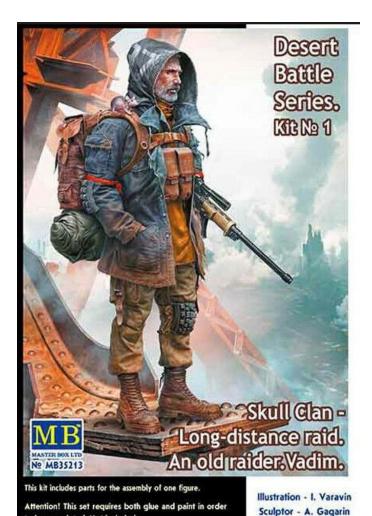
Skull Clan – Long-distance raid – An old raider. Vadim (MB35213) – one male figure

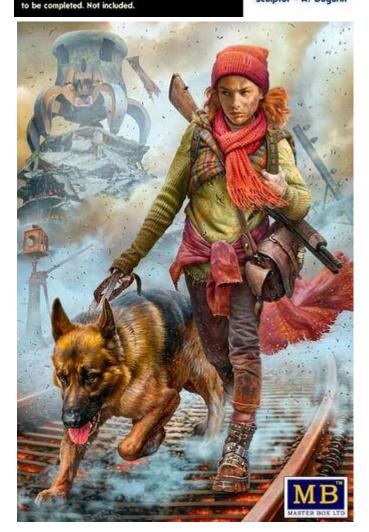
Skull Clan – Long-distance raid – A new leader. Hanna (MB35214) – one female figure

Skull Clan – Long-distance raid. A new religion. Pastor (MB35216) – one male figure and a dog

These presumably could be mixed to do some wonderfully imaginative dioramas or vignettes. I could also imagine that some figures lend themselves to mixing with some more "realistic" military or civilian figure sets to do something rather more historically accurate.







1/700 WARSHIPS

BY MANUFACTURER PART 8

Compiled by Joe Turner



FAIRY KIKAKU

This manufacturer seems to be an exclusively short-run resin kit maker from Japan and the models are said to have been designed by a bunch of ship modelling enthusiasts. They clearly with a desire to model interesting and unusual but certainly historic vessels.

Fairy also do 1/144 ships/boats, aircraft and AFVs, 1/35 and 1/72 armoured vehicles, 1/288 AFVs as well as1/700 ships and 1/2000 ships. In keeping with the stated purpose of this series, I have only listed those 1/700 ship kits I could locate and identify online – but I suspect there are more.

I have seen a couple of their kits in Japanese hobby shops, mainly in Tokyo and Osaka, and they look quite fascinating – if rather basic and rather challenging to clean up. The resin parts I saw in what were clear bags at the time (although I gather they are mostly boxed now) and would require a fair bit of cleaning up and preparation before assembly. Some smaller items were , to put it simply, not really good enough, so would require replacement parts from the spares box or aftermarket.

The hulls of larger vessels - just think of ships the size of early light cruisers or pre-Dreadnought battleships - are usually made in two resin parts, split both vertically and with fore and aft bits! Smaller vessels more conventionally have one piece resin hulls. I assume this has to do with the approach taken to moulding the main components, rather than making the parts fit in smaller than usual sized boxes, though I could well be wrong!

Fairy also sometimes offer multiple models grouped in eclectic or logical themes, so you can get multiple kits in one box, and they are not always related historically.

Aside from being a prolific manufacturer, the wonderful thing about Fairy is their incredibly broad range of subject matter. Most of the kits are of ships that are not well known and are therefore not likely to be popular subjects for mainstream injection moulded kits, or even large scale resin kits by the main resin kit manufacturers – but they all seem to have some history that makes them excellent subjects. There are sooooo many to list though.....

WWII JAPANESE WARSHIPS AND TRANSPORT VESSELS

- *Daido Maru*, 1943, IJN auxiliary armed transport vessel (or special gun ship) SO03
- San Francisco Maru, auxiliary transport ship S034
- Syotan Maru (Shotan Maru), IJN requisitioned ship, 1944,
- S041
- *America Maru*, merchant raider, as in Russo-Japanese War S043
- Saikyo Maru, auxiliary or armed merchant cruiser, plus one unidentified ship (pre-WW1 torpedo boat?) S044

- Yamazaki Maru, auxiliary transport ship, cargo S051
- Myoku Maru, Salamaua Lae, 1943 S060
- Akitsu Maru, 1944, IJN light aircraft carrier (or escort carrier) No. 60 (??)
- World War 2 Japanese Army sea trucks (small cargo vessels), *Fumiyara Maru*, *Kiku Maru*, *Momo Maru*, plus one wooden "sea truck" \$062
- Aiyo Maru, 1943, ex-Type 1C standard ship, Dampier (?)
 S069
- Brisbane Maru, 1943, auxiliary transport ship S071
- *Taimei Maru*, 1943, ex-Type 1C standard ship, Dampier (?) S072
- Nitiryu Maru, IJN auxiliary transport ship, as at the "Battle of Lae, 1943" SO73
- Nichihide Maru 1944, Iwo Jima Tank Transport ship S076
- Kenbu Maru, 1943, Sanko steamship, sea trucks (?) S081
- Imperial Japanese Navy torpedo boats: CMB Thorneycroft 55ft class, MGB Type H-1, MTB Type MAS-451, MTB Type T1, MTB Type T38, MTB Type TM-4, MTB Type TM-111 S015 (*NB: these descriptions may be unreliable as sources vary and may actually also include T0, T101, T102, ex-Chinese Yan-92 or ex-KUAI 1 or 2)
- Taichu Maru, auxiliary transport vessel (landing craft) S534
- Taimei Maru 1943, IJN auxiliary transport vessel S087
- *Daido Maru*, 1943, IJN auxiliary armed transport vessel (or special gun ship) SO91

GERMAN TRANSPORT VESSELS, WW2

- SS *Hindenburg,* 1942, Finland Passage (as sunk by a Russian submarine) S049
- Urundi, transport ship 1940, at Oslo S052

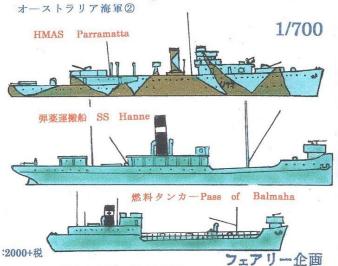
US NAVY TRANSPORT VESSELS, WW2

- USS George F Elliott, 1942, Guadalcanal sinking S066
- USS Lakatoi & USS Kopara, Guadalcanal S065

WWII AUSTRALIAN WARSHIPS AND CARGO VESSELS – New Guinea Battle of Buna: HMAS Lithgow (Bathurst class corvette) & SS Narvik (or Karsik) aux transport – S070

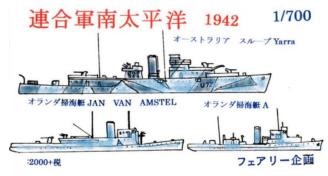
- Tobruk Ferry Service 1941 (3 vessels): HMAS Parramatta (Grimsby class sloop), SS Hanne (Danish merchant vessel), The Pass of Balmaha (civilian steam tanker) – S088 (as below)

Tobruk Ferry Service 1941



ALLIED SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN 1942 WARSHIPS AND AIRCRAFT

 New Guinea Battle of Buna: HMAS Yarra (Grimsby class sloop, Dutch minesweeper Jan Van Amstel, Dutch minesweeper Type A class, Lockheed Hudson bomber – S018 (as below)



19TH C. JAPANESE WARSHIPS AND TRANSPORT VESSELS

- Tokugawa Shogunate's Bosin War Fleet *Fujiyama* (sailing frigate), *Kanrin Mary* (sailing sloop) and *Hiryu* (small steamship?) S006.
- 1866 2nd Choshu Expedition: paddle steamer Shokaku Maru, sail frigate Asahi Maru, steam frigate Yakumo Maru
 S022

1905 RUSSO JAPANESE WAR

- Hizen, battleship, possibly c. 1908 (ex Russian warship Retvizan) – S028

FIRST SINO-JAPANESE WAR 1894

- Saien & Heien, IJN (ex-Chinese) protected cruiser and ironclad coastal battleship – S002

SINO JAPANESE WAR (?)

Yellow Sea Naval Battle, casemate ironclad Fuso - S023

MANCHUKUO IMPERIAL NAVY

- Sun Tien class gunboat, *Yan Min* & unidentified paddlewheel (sidewheeler) armed vessel – S001

CHINESE NAVY 1

- ROC (Taiwanese) light cruiser *Yi Xian*, ROC Motor Torpedo Boat No 3 class, protected cruiser *Chao Ho*, & Schnellboot Type S-100 class *Yue* 22 – S021 *(as below)*



CHINESE NAVY 3

 Yongyian class gunboat Yung Chien (1937) & light cruiser Ning Hai – S019

CHINESE WARSHIPS

- Warship Keien (Jingyuan 1887 class) - S007

BALKAN WARS, 1912

- Hydra, Greek ironclad - S047

NETHERLAND EAST INDIA NAVY

- -Tromp class cruiser and TM4 patrol boat S020
- De Zeven Provinciën, coastal defence ship, Soerabaja 1942 – S059

PRE-WWI GREEK WARSHIP

Pisa class Armoured Cruiser Georgios Averof 1912 – S057

NORWEGIAN WARSHIPS 1814 TO PRESENT

- Coastal Defence Ship *Harald Haarfagre* and Destroyer *Garm* (ca. 1940) – S040

SWEDISH WARSHIPS

- Coastal Defence Ship Sverige and private yacht Fujiyama (Japanese?) S026
- Coastal Defence Ship Gustaf V and icebreaker Isbrytaren II - S025
- Coastal Defence Ship Oscar II, 1940, S031
- Marine Defence Battleship Thor, (1896-1937???) S033
- Coastal Defence Ship Göta S035

FINNISH NAVY 1918 TO PRESENT

- Coastal Defence Ship Ilmarinen (1941) S029
- Submarines Sauko, Vessiko & one Vetihinen class submarine S024 (as below)
- -Finland Navy 2017, *Porkkala* (Pansio class minelayer), *Helsinki* (FAC), *Tuuli* (air cushion patrol vessel) S039



FINNISH TRANSPORT VESSELS

- Finnish Transpoerters WWII Vol.1, *Imatra*, *Nina* and *Viipuri* S042
- SS Louhi, SS Bonden, SS Castor and SS Pohjanlati transport vessels S079

BRAZILIAN WARSHIPS

- Minas Geraes class Battleship São Paulo - S046

THAI NAVY 1906 TO PRESENT

- Coastal Defence Ship Thonburi S030
- Destroyer R-Class *Phra Ruang*, destroyer *Sua Tayanch*, torpedo boat No. 1 class, Martin B-10 bomber S016
- Thai Trad class corvette, with French sloop *Marne*, and Arras class French gunboat *S0??*

RUSSIAN WARSHIPS AND CARGO VESSELS

- Baltic Fleet pair ship Kamchatka and fleet tug Svir S005
- Baltic Fleet cargo ship Koreya S010

ITALIAN CARGO VESSELS

- Transport of Tiger Tanks to Tunisia 1942: Italian Railway Vessel *SS Aspromontea*– S???

TURKISH 19TH CENTURY WARSHIPS Turkish barbette ship Osmaniye, 1897'1923 – S053

SPANISH NAVY - SPANISH CIVIL WAR

- *Kanguro* (submarine rescue vessel) & *Laya* (gunboat, Recalde class) 1937 S056
- -Dedalo, Spanish seaplane carrier, 1937 S048

RECOLLECTIONS

by Graham Carter

I was one of the earlier members of APMA (number 44) and recall meetings at such diverse places as the pub across from the Town Hall and Strathfield Girls High School. As always there were funny moments. I laboured for weeks to convert an Airfix Bf110 and a Mosquito into a DH Sea Hornet, such an elegant beast. After much chopping, gluing, filling and sanding, following an article in Airfix Magazine, I produced the model below. Quite pleased I was and won a prize at the next meeting, I think at the pub. The prize?, the brand new Frog Hornet!! Oh, how we laughed!



In the 1970s I was teaching at Parramatta High where a couple of lads showed some interest in model building so we used to have informal meeting at lunchtimes. One of the boys was fourteen or fifteen years old who turned up at the staffroom door quite regularly to show me his latest creation. It only took a year or so for me to realise that he had a real talent and sure enough, when he joined APMA, he was thrashing me in competitions, and still would do if he ever finishes a model! What an honour it was, sobering none-the-less, to be invited to Lindsay Charman's 60th birthday party.



After moving to Bathurst I still tried to get to APMA meetings as often as I could. Around this time we had a caravan parked on our vacant block, and at Bathurst 1000 time it was occupied by a couple of 'likely-lads' in the form of barely-out-of-school lan Wrenford and Ross Anderson who used it as a base for photography forays to Mount Panorama.

I began primarily as a builder of AFVs in both 1/76 and 1/35 mostly scratch building as so few kits were around then, and have kept a couple that I was proudest of, including an AEC 6x6 ACV in 1/35 using just the wheels from two 1/35 poly Bedford trucks and a Dorchester based on the 1/76 AEC Matador, with a full interior.



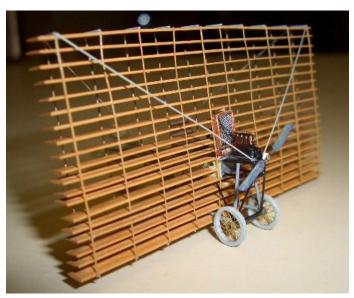


I started into aircraft about thirty years ago, being particularly attracted to oddities...but always in the 'One True Scale'. These have focussed on RAF planes 1914 to 1980-ish, although I also delve into RAFwaffe, Italian and French subjects. I am a keen vac-form builder with the HP45 Heracles (Eastern variant) being my favourite.



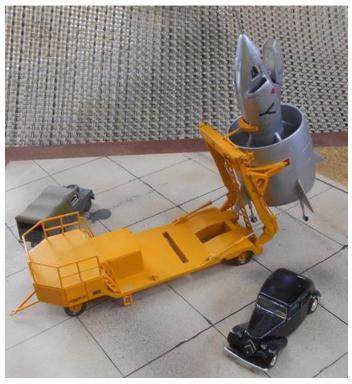
I have also done a few scratch-builds along with a mass of injected kits. The Phillips 1904 Multiplane shown here was a particular favourite and picked up a second place for Scale Views — Issue 3 2022

scratch-builds at Model Expo in the nineties. It is only 50mm high and has become bit warped over time.



My interest in oddities and hard-to-build kits has led me to kits like the Delta2 Savoia-Marchetti S55 and the Mach2 SNECMA Coleoptere, two of my recent favourites.





Ed's Note: In the absence of a willing victim this series draws to a fitting close with Graham's contribution...

FROM THE MEETINGS

Simon Wolff has provided some images from the recent APMA Meetings. First up: entries for British and/or Green themes in April which seemed to work well and attract a good entry of models:









...then the Falklands War 40th Anniversary display...





...and lastly...Ley Reynold's People's Choice winning ORP Warszawa and KU 25 Class vessels



And more from Simon Wolff from the May meeting...



Chris Cole's immaculate Mercedes racer...



James Argaet's 19701/2 Camaro and ANSW DC-4



Ley Reynold's Da Tung 1942...



And Lindsay's presentation on Chinook camouflage.



And lastly...Peter Webster working away with PVA...



And photos from Lindsay Charman of the winning models from the June meeting with its Red and/or Italian themes and a General category. This attracted a record entry of some 56 models.

Graham Carter took out the Red section with his converted Handley Page Halifax in civilian colours.



Dave Richardson took out the Italian section with a Dornier 335 in a 'What If' colour scheme



Ley Reynolds took out the General category with his lovely little Pfalz A.I.



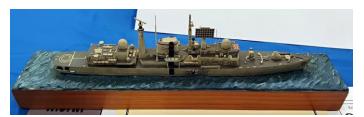
APMA AT THE ILLAWARRA SHOW

IPMA held the first of the annual shows to reappear after the Plague over the weekend of May 21 & 22. Surprisingly the much anticipated flurry of 'lockdown' models did not happen and the number of entries seemed a down in numbers on pre-Plague levels but there was no drop in quality. Unsurprisingly visitor numbers seemed to be up.

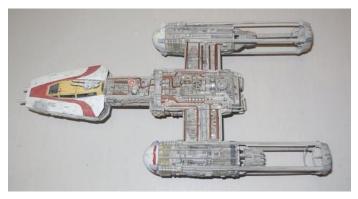
Thanks to Lindsay's encouragement and efforts APMA had a stand and did a great job showing our "wares". Our thanks go to the members – and in particular Simon, Peter, Andrew and Lindsay - who helped out by setting up and manning the stand and displaying their models

APMA members did very well in the competitions, collecting a string of awards including...

Simon Wolf had a Class win and Silver for his HMS Sheffield and same again for his Buzo Tactico figure.



Lindsay Charman scored the trifector: a Gold for his 1/72 Revell Y-Wing, Silver for his Bandai X-Wing (T-70) and a Bronze for his 1/72 Platz/Italeri updated Italian variant of the MQ-1 Predator drone.



Chris Cole won two Golds, the first for his 1/12 Paris Dakar bike and the other for his 1/43 Shelby Cobra, a Silver for his 1/24 Mercedes Benz W125 and another Silver for his 1/24 scale Jaguar XKSS model.



David Muir had a Class win and a Gold for his 1/6 Lotus Café Racer, a second Gold for his 1/32 Tha Bak 'longtail' boat and a Silver for his Goatmobile in 1/24.



Graham Carter had a Class win and Gold for his Hanover CLIIIA, a Silver for his Roland CII and a Bronze for his Couzinet Arc en Ciel, all in 1/72 scale.



Ley Reynolds picked up two Silvers, one each for his 1/72 scale REP type K monoplane and his 1/72 Pionier-Landungsboote 41.



GENERAL NEWS

Latest releases and announcements from Ley Reynolds at Platypus Publications:

From PEN & SWORD:

Zeppelin Inferno - Blitz of 1916 Villers Bocage through the Lens Ocean Class Transports in WW2 De Havilland Enterprises - a History

From MUSHROOM MODEL PUBLICATIONS:

Camera On - F4F Wildcat
Armies of the Crimean War.
Polish Wings 34 - Mig 15
Mitsubishi Babs Vol 1
Fighting Colours - EE/BAC Lightning
Spotlight On - P-51 Mustang

Polish Wings 35 - Spitfires over Dieppe

From **TANKOGRAD**:

Spezialfahrzeuge (German Specialised Motor Vehicles)

From **PhilEditions**:

48 - RAF Spitfire XIV 49 - RAuxAF Spitfire I 50 - NZ Tempest V 51 - Short Singapore

52 - RCAF Spitfire IX

From MA PUBLICATIONS:

From MA (a new publisher): The Dassault Mirage F1

From **SHIPCRAFT**:

British Escort Destroyers

From TANKCRAFT:

Panther on the Eastern Front in 1943 Panzer IV in the Normandy campaign M60

From **DUTCH PROFILE**:

PV-2 Harpoon Canadair NF-5 Consolidated PBY

From **HELION**:

Super Etendard in the Falklands
90 Years of the Indian Air Force
Pakistan Air Force - a History, Vols 1 & 2
Foreign Aircraft in Russia Before 1941
Kursk 1943
China's Anti-Ship Missiles
Erawan War, Vol 2
Target Saigon, Vol 3
Steel Centurions, Italian Armoured Units in WW2
Operation Bagration
Air Wars over the Congo

Soviet Air Defence Force 1945-60.

The Tank Corps in the Great War, Vol 1

Charles X's Wars Volume 2 The Wars in the East, 1655-1657

The Darkest Hour Volume 1 The Japanese Offensive in the Indian Ocean

The War in Ukraine (Volume 1: Armed Formations of the Donetsk People's Republic, 2014-2022)

From MORTONS:

The Fairey Swordfish

From **SCHIFFER**:

The Huey in Vietnam Sea Harriers in the Falklands

From **OSPREY**:

German and Italian Aircraft Carriers Macchi 202/205 Units Barents Sea 1942 Operation Jericho Siege of Budapest 1944 Ju 188 Units Polish Navy 1918-45

From VALLIANT WINGS:

East Africa 1918-18

Airframe Album 18 - Fairey Firefly

From **KELSEY**:

Thornycroft Military Vehicles

From **EUROPEAN AIRLINES**:

Beauty of the Skies - de Havilland DH91 Albatross Lockheed Model 9B Orion Pan Am in Norway 1935-91 The Fokker Fours Junkers for Scandinavia

From BLURB:

Samurai Sabres (F-86D, F & RF86F)

From VALIANT WINGS:

A&M P-38 Lightning.

From TANKPAD:

US Army Combat Aviation Brigade.

From CHANDOS PUBLICATIONS:

Kauz Night Fighters: Dornier's first night fighters and their operations with the Luftwaffe - Dornier Do17Z-7 Kauz I, Do17Z-10 Kauz II, Do215B-5 Kauz III

From **PEKO**:

With Raupenschlepper Ost on the Eastern Front