

# An Aeroplane Van in 7mm scale

Following our Ask Aspinall discussion on the colour of these vehicles in Magazine 256, **DUNCAN BRIDGE** describes how he built his model...



The model is the AND Kits plastic body (with the exception of a replacement roof made from printer's aluminium plate) coupled to a Lanky Kits etched brass chassis (designed by D&S). I modified the former to match the photograph in Peter Tatlow's book (*Historic Carriage Drawings, Volume 3, Non-Passenger Coaching Stock*) rather than make it as produced which, I understand, is one of the later batches.

The chassis was modified as follows: a friend of mine made the buffers fully sprung; a handbrake, Westinghouse brake, brake linkages and bufferbeam pipes were added, together with a screw coupling. The design of chassis is very good and it runs very smoothly. One also needs to fill in the edge of the bufferbeam as the prototype beam was a lump of wood and the etch does not quite bend into the right shape.

I used Mekpak to assemble the plastic components, but this was a bit vicious at times and Denis Tillman, who markets the kits, suggested the Humbrol plastic glue was kinder. I enhanced the detail in places by adding door stops, bolts, etc. using Slaters plastic rod, especially on the end door hinges.

For ease of painting, the chassis and body are separate components, as is the roof to enable the windows to be slid in after painting. I painted the inside of the windows an off white and I also took the view that they would all have been painted. There wouldn't have been much point in leaving one clear so people could see in if they were painted for security purposes! You may note that I have left off the military branding as my modelling

period is just after Grouping and by that time when they were being used as Covered Carriage Trucks. I reckoned the LMS wouldn't have wanted them all to be returned to Southport as they had become common user vehicles.

I took the opportunity, as I had modified the kit as one of the earliest batches, to paint the vehicle in the lake colour rather than the brown that has been suggested most of them were painted. I appreciate that this may not have been the case, but it looks rather nice and the photo looked to me as though it might be lake rather than brown! I still don't understand why brown was used for the later batches rather than the lake, unless cost had something to do with it. Even if brown was the only colour they could get in the

war, I would have thought some would have been repainted before Grouping.

The transfers are from Guilplates. I was told by them that someone in the L&YR Society said the transfers were not that good. All I can say is that I wouldn't have wanted to hand draw the numbers, letters and crests to the standard of the Guilplates product! All I did was to add a bit more colour to the crest, based on the image in the *British Railway Modelling* article on the L&YR which was part of their series of the Pre-Grouping railways. The solebar lettering was handwritten.

I think that is all I did. It was an interesting project and one that has been thought provoking for a number of people! (Some of my friends still think it should be two-tone in colour!!).



Heading photograph and above: Views of both sides of Duncan's model.

# TRADE & EXHIBITION NEWS



## Bachmann 2-4-2T coming soon!

Bachmann is predicting that its 4mm scale models of the Aspinall 2-4-2T will be in the shops in October or November...

There will be three versions of the locomotive available from Bachmann and one from the National Railway Museum. All four are of the original short bunker version with a round top boiler.

The Bachmann versions are:

- Model No. 31 – 165 in LMS black livery No.10695
- Model No. 31 – 166 in the early BR livery No.50636
- Model No. 31 – 167DC in weathered early BR livery No.50795

Model Nos. 31 – 165 and 31 – 166 will have a six-pin DCC socket while No. 31 – 167DC will be DCC ready. The first two will retail at a recommended price of £83.95 while the DCC ready version will be £115.45.

In addition Bachmann are to produce for the National Railway Museum a limited edition of the loco in L&YR livery. These models will be of No.1008, the first of the class to be built, which is preserved at the NRM.

The Society has arranged with the NRM the supply of an alternative number (1042) in etched brass and L&YR transfers to change the model if desired. More than 125 models have been provisionally ordered by Society members and will be available soon from the NRM. Members who have ordered these models via the Society will shortly be receiving a form asking them for payment and to confirm their order. Please note the L&YR liveried models have sold out and no further orders can be accepted.



31 – 165



31 – 166



31 – 167DC



Barry C. Lane Collection

Details of exhibitions at which the Society stand will be present plus an up to date list of model kit and component suppliers in both 4 and 7mm can be found on our website. Go to [www.lyrs.org.uk](http://www.lyrs.org.uk) and follow the links. If you have information or news for the website contact the Assistant Website Editor on [mike.fitton@lyrs.org.uk](mailto:mike.fitton@lyrs.org.uk) Our attendance at exhibitions is managed by Graham Smith. His contact details are: t: 0115 938 4371 e: [exhibitions@lyrs.org.uk](mailto:exhibitions@lyrs.org.uk)