

### Tiger Moth reborn Part 3

Finishing is one of those jobs that never ends (have a look at Stan Begg's Hurricane if you want to see real finishing) if you don't decide early on how far you will go. I wanted "looks good in the air and on the ground but don't get too close" scale so I wanted some detail but not too much. First thing was the cockpits, I reckon empty cockpits on a scale plane don't look right in the air so I dug out a Williams brothers male for the pilot and a voluptuous female for the passenger - yeah I know, sexist! The instrument panels on DHK are pretty basic so I cobbled these from a bit of ply and some old instruments from the junk box. The WB pilot got his head cut off and re-stuck to reduce his catatonic stare and he got a leather helmet, fabric jacket and a fur collar! She (also from the old Ultimate) just got dusted.



There is a large oil tank on the Moth so I carved one from balsa, stuck it on a ply backing plate and added litho plate straps. There's all sorts of junk under the fuel tank including fuel pipe, tap and assorted controls. I contented myself with the cross bracing of the cabane struts and the home made windshields of course.

I said I made control horns so you wouldn't see the screws that attach the normal sport ones but there is one place on the Moth where nuts and bolts stick out like the proverbial - on the tailplane struts, so I delved into my stack of small BA stuff and bolted 'em on.



One of the reasons I chose VH-DHK to model was it's rather garish colour scheme; splashes of red everywhere plus the blue trim and bright yellow base colour. It also has a lot of lettering! It advertises its occupation and I was tempted to hand paint the lot but the big rally at Luskyntyre was rapidly

approaching and I needed to get it done so I nipped up to Best Signs in Drummoyne and for a bunch of notes Geoff produced this lot!

Finally the hub caps. They have the DH logo on them and Doug was lucky to get his relief moulded with his kit. I tried moulding some plastic I had over a ball but couldn't get a decent shape so in desperation I cut them flat and did a quick hand painting - one day I'll have another go but for now ..... don't look too closely. Oh, and the step? A hole cut in the side and trimmed with litho plate punched to simulate fixing screws.

And how does it fly I hear you ask - well, like a Tiger Moth, slow and stately and if you want a loop - dive and build up a bit of speed!

About 150 hrs of research & work but I am well pleased. If I could just get David Pound to change its classification from ARF in our scale comps I'd be completely satisfied. I mean AR bloody F!!! If you, like me, reckon this is too far from original to still call it an ARF please bombard him with emails (he's on [davepoundy@yahoo.com.au](mailto:davepoundy@yahoo.com.au) in case you didn't know). OK, back to the shed.

