

moving the hobby forward

MidlandBus *Kits*



Magazine

OCTOBER 2026

The Miniature Bus Modellers' NEWSLETTER 59

MOVING THE HOBBY FORWARD

OCTOBER 2026

I know, I know, October!!! And I am another year older!! Well my Ai piece generated a lot of interest, we can't be distracted from the point that it will have a massive positive impact on our hobby, which is a good thing as it will enable more modeller's to get the model they want. I use it a lot now for generating passengers for my models or parts etc, I know some are still humbugging it, but Ai is here and it's in the model world.

Well as I write this, I am just sizing up my glazing ready to get out my cricut machine and cut out the individual windows for my 1/50 scale Atlantean. I also have 1/50 scale Corgi Fleetline in paint stripper which will become a Nottingham Fleetline to go with mine.

As you know, preparations for the Xmas show has begun and although it's our smaller event, we have so far got 25 stalls, a combination of sales & displays, so we look forward to seeing you for our 2nd Xmas cracker show on the 19th December.

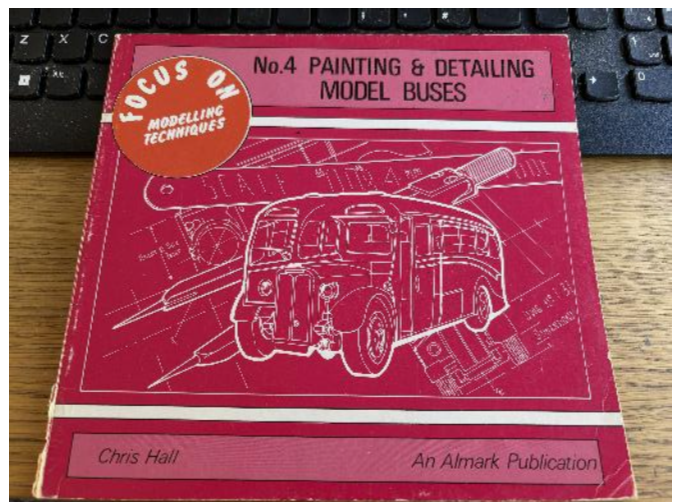
If you have any pictures or articles you would like to share in our Newsletter, or your thoughts of what we can do better, please send them to our email address which is midlandbuskits@outlook.com



The Nottingham Atlantean so far. Wheels fitted, interiors in, glazing in and windscreens fitted. Next job is to apply the wipers, window hoppers and Transfers I have designed. The wipers and mirrors I am printing now. My 1:50 scale Atlantean wheels which were printed from a pic.



The lettering has a White border around the main Gold lettering



I also managed to pick this bus up from France of all Places, so I now have something to read. I didn't Even know this book existed.

Right I must crack on, this Newsletter won't produce itself. Enjoy. And so from the Friendly Bus Modellers. Daryl, Leon & David, ENJOY!

'ONE TEN BUS'

MODEL BUS KITS IN MINATURE



NEW Optare Excel L1150 KIT

New to the 1/110 model kit range, is the MKI Optare Excel L1150. It has a 3d printed resin body shell, interior and road wheels, and the glazing is Printed. This scale of kit is ideal for those with limited space for a full size layout.

Nottingham's Enviro 400 MMC City is also Available in our kit range along with other Modeller's favourites. Single deckers are £30, double £35 and Postage is £5

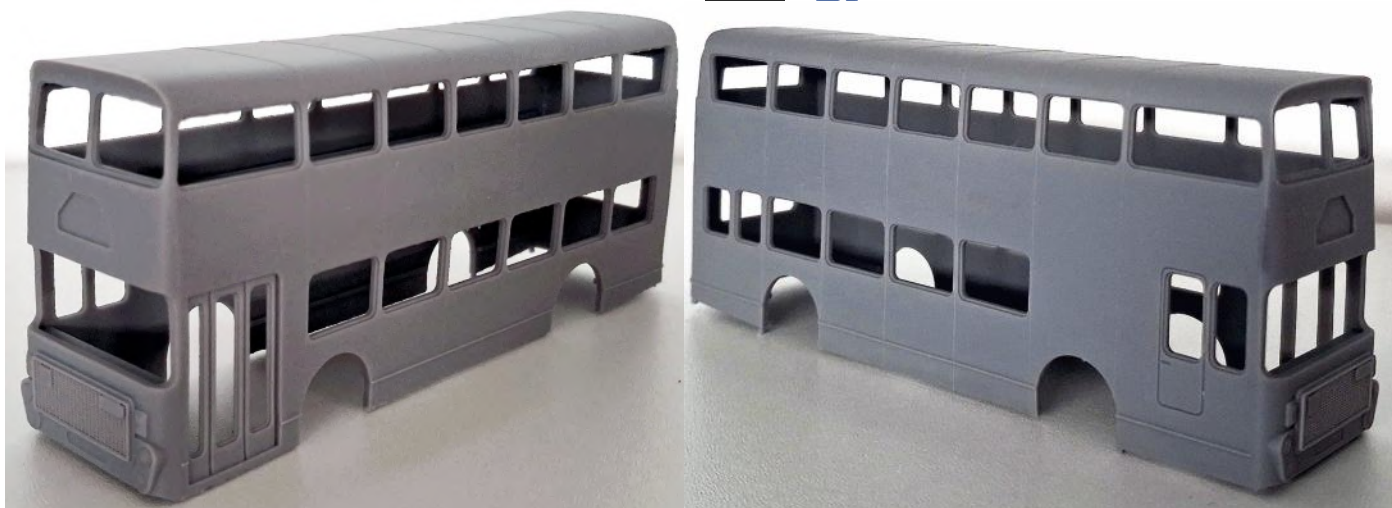


Also new to the 1/110 model kit range, and displayed for the first time at the Midland Bus Kits Show was the Duple Dominant bus and coach version & Volvo City bus.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).

Sunrise Models and Transfers

[Click here for Sunrise Catalogue](#)



Kits 43 and 44 of the Alexander-bodied Ailsa MkI and MkII are the next 3D printed kits being developed for Sunrise, and these pictures show the first print of the one-piece bodyshell that will be included in them. Still some modifications to be done to it.



If you want to make models of Stagecoach steel blue 'liveried' buses and coaches but need to get the transfers to finish them off, Sunrise can say 'We've got you' just like Stagecoach says. Three suitable transfer sets are available as set ST-SC8 for single-deckers £6; SC-ST9 for double-deckers £7; and ST-SC10 with pairs of 30mm, 21mm and 7mm fleetnames/logos £3 email admin@georgeheaney.co.uk

N Gauge - N'TASTIC



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

N Gauge - 1974 Leyland Leopard PSU3 & PSU4 Northern Counties Buses (2 Options) £11.95 Price
N Gauge - 1974 Leyland Leopard PSU3 & PSU4 Northern Counties Buses (2 Options)

Available are: 1974 Leyland Leopard PSU3 / Northern Counties Lancashire United 424 (GBN331N) which was a one off for a exhibition and 1974 Leyland Leopard PSU4 / Northern Counties - Chester City Transport.

3D Printed resin model, comes in 6 parts main body, wheels (x4) and chassis with fixed seats. Open, unglazed windows body shell.

This is available in 1:76 / OO gauge along with TT120 & TT3mm / 1:100, please check out our other scales page.

Sold under licence and based on an STL file by Paul Kevill

Iwans Bus Bits

'Another model fixed by Iwan's Bus Bits'



'Another model fixed by Iwan's Bus Bits'

Find us on Facebook

We have a wide range of spare parts for model buses and coaches, both brand new and second hand. Here is just a small selection. We have partnered with some of the best model bus producers to supply the very best parts to keep your model buses looking good as new. Visit my [website](#) [Facebook](#)

New E200 spares in stock



Rear engine cover smooth (unpainted) £4



Rear screens £5



Front screen London style £5



LWB nearside glazing single door tinted) £6
LWB offside glazing single door tinted) £6

3D Printed Spares

We have found in our stock some 3D printed spares from many years ago. We only have one of each of these items. Mercedes Citaro mk1 bumper £3 Prices plus £2.10 standard or £3.10 tracked posting



Enviro 200 Facelift Bumper

Something we were asked for a lot were facelift E200 bumpers and these have made a return when Model Buses Creations released the Bee Network Enviro 200.

We have these in stock, unpainted and ready to update fictional fleet vehicles or real vehicle repaints.

These are £5 plus posting

Please keep following our Facebook page and see our full spares range on our website www.iwansbusbits.co.uk Thank you for your support. Iwan



The Buckie Model Centre has advised that Holland Otto have advised him that unfortunately his latest batch of Plaxton Panorama models have been delayed until mid-November. He sends his apologies to those who have pre-ordered.

Acklams – YX68UBP

Blands – NVL1

Citylink (Large lettering) – LSK807

Citylink 40 years – HSK659 Routes:

Edinburgh 900 & Glasgow 900

Glen Valley Tours H14GVT

Hodgsons – 821XUP

Stagecoach West Scotland (new blue)

– YX69LCJ

<https://buckiemodelcentre.com/>

In Every Detail- Mark Budd



EFE ECW Fleetline Conversion
Set of 12 opening windows
and cab slider, £4.75

EW1



14mm Alexander sliders and hoppers for earlier Glasgow Atlanteans but fit many other buses including half cabs. Nearside and offside versions of sliders (6 of each)
Set of 12, £3.50

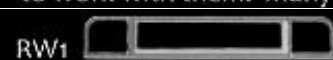


ECW Olympian - sold individually to make up required set
Single hopper, 35p



Cab window, 90p

A range of exquisite 1:76 scale model bus parts etched in Nickel Silver, designed to enhance existing models or add some fine detail to your builds. These parts are produced in small numbers so some orders may take a little while to deliver or be placed on pre-order. Many of these parts are extremely fine and you will require some skill to work with them. Many thanks for taking the time to look.



RW1 Mirror Image / Sunrise
Alexander R-Type
Window openers
Set of 10, £4. 12, £4.50



Cab windows, 90p



Early front grille, £1.75



Rear dome grille, 80p



80p/pair (Also suits AV Ailsa etc)



Large side intake, £1.75
Also suits late Atlantean



BMAC lights and signs
Paint the lenses with coloured varnish for realistic finish
Big rear lights, 80p / pair



Smaller lights,
40p / pair

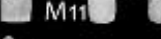
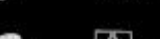


PAYE sign/blank, 40p

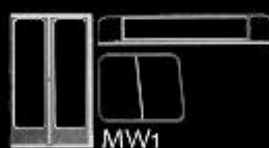


L6 L10

Mirrors, 60p pair



OOC MCW Metrobus Mk1/2 (Glasgow spec)
set of 10 opening windows, door and cab slider, £5.75



MW1



MW2

Mk2 Metrobus front grilles. £2.50
Sold as a pair - choose different upper design



MG2



MG4



MG3



MG5

EFE Alexander Y Type

Front grilles, £1

Later lower conversion, £1.30
(requires filing down the casting)



YG5



YG1



YG2



YG3



YG4

Side grille, 80p

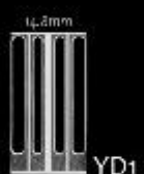


Set of 6 window
hoppers



also fits Atlantean/Fleetline, £1.75

Full width 4-leaf door, £2



YD1

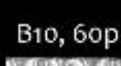
ABC Alexander Ailsa

Set of 11 SBC style opening
windows and 2 cab sliders, £3.75



AV1

Pair of side grilles for
Glasgow AV1-3, £1.75



B10, 60p

EFE Alexander Atlantean Conversion

Set of 8 panoramic
hoppers, £4



AW1

Set of 8 short panoramic sliders, £2

Also suits ABC Ailsa conversion



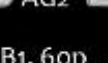
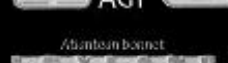
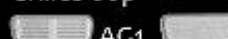
AW2

Cab windows 90p

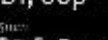


AC2

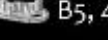
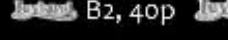
Grilles 80p



B3, 40p



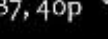
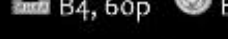
B6, 60p



B9, 40p



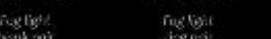
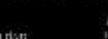
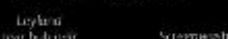
FG1, £1



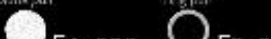
F4, 50p



F7, 50p



F10, 50p



F13, 50p



F16, 50p

Straight wiper, 35p each

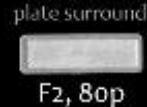


Pantograph wipers, £1 / pair

(fold the blade around behind the arm for cut and glide for full effect)



Rear number plate surround



Fuel filler surround
F1, 80p

Please contact Mark directly markbudd1276@gmail.com

MARK HUGHES MODELS

23 Orchard Rise, Tibberton, GLOUCESTER GL19 3AT

hmark.hughes@gmail.com

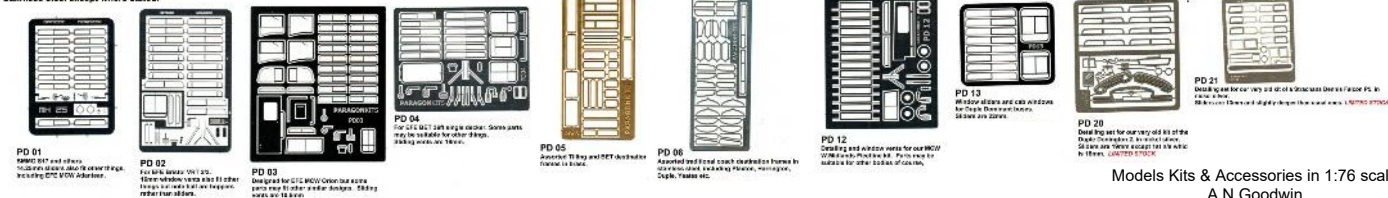
CATALOGUE



LITTLE BUS COMPANY

For all enquiries and pre-orders, please contact karl@little-bus.com Please send postal enquiries and kit orders to Little Bus Company 2 Brookside Cottages, Barlow, Dronfield, Derbyshire S18 7TB Tel. 01246 230468.

PARAGONKITS ETCHED DETAILING FRETS
Stainless steel except where stated.

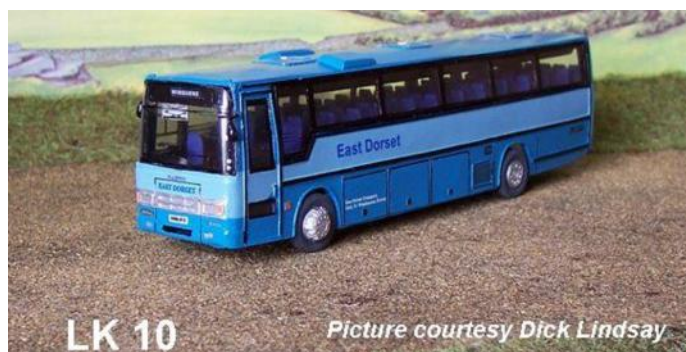


Just a reminder that most of the etched detailing sets are still available and can be very useful for both kits and scratchbuilds, regardless of what they were designed for. enquiries to: agoodwin206@mail.com please



Models Kits & Accessories in 1:76 scale
A N Goodwin
206 St James' Park Road
NORTHAMPTON NN5 5EU

agoodwin206@mail.com
FIND US ON [FACEBOOK](#)



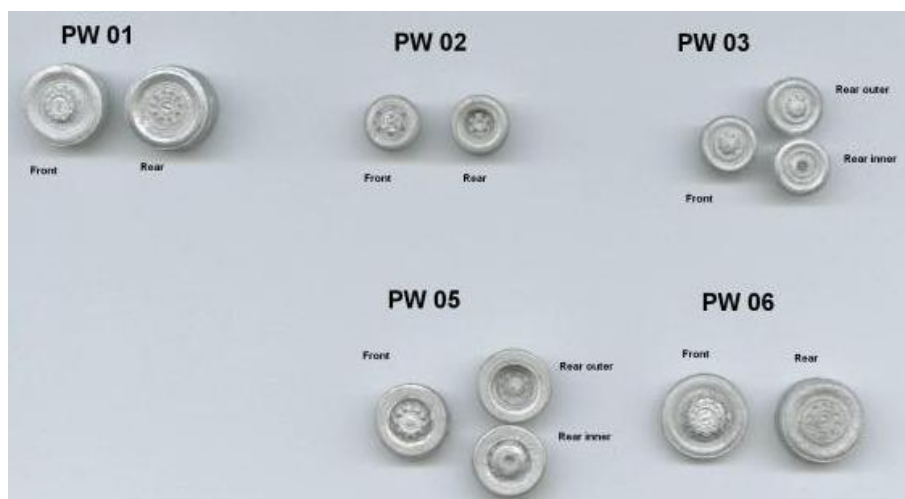
LK 10

Picture courtesy Dick Lindsay



KIT REMINDER

Kit LK 10, the ex Dennis Javelin Paramount 3, has been re-issued twice in 'normal' resin. After a few enquiries I have been persuaded to ask if there is any interest in another re-run. Let me know on: agoodwin206@mail.com please. Pictures of a built kit courtesy of Dick Lindsay..



CURRENT KITS



PARAGONKITS

Models Kits & Accessories in 1:76 scale
A N Goodwin [MBF 543] 206 St James' Park Road
NORTHAMPTON NN5 5EU
agoodwin206@mail.com

OCTOBER 2026

CANCELS AND REPLACES ALL PREVIOUS ISSUES

A range of mainly resin bus kits and body shells. The following items are currently available from stock – **all supplied UNBUILT**:

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you are on **gmail** you need to use the personal email above or you will not get a reply!

PB 02	Plaxton Pointer Dart SDL 8.5 m body	short re-run	£15.00
PB 02A	Plaxton Pointer Dart SDL 9 m body	last few	£15.00
Both for use with EFE 9.8m Dart SDL suitably shortened			
PB 03A	Duple Vega 'fishmouth' 206" wheelbase	BODYSHELL	£17.00
PB 03B	Duple Vega 'early butterfly' 206" w/base	BODYSHELL	£15.00
PB 04	Plaxton Venturer early 206" wheelbase	BODYSHELL	£17.00
PB 06	Weymann Reliance BODYSHELL [East Kent style]	ASK!	£17.00
PB 07	Plaxton M1/D2 full front	BODYSHELL short re-run	£15.00
PB 12	Marshall C37 9.8m Dart body for use with EFE SDL Dart	Pre-order	
PB 18	Burlingham 'Sun Saloon' BODYSHELL	short re-run	£15.00

PX 01	Full height lower deck for EFE VRT3	short re-run ordered	N Y A
PX 03	Dual door lower deck+seats for EFE Olympian [London]		SOLD OUT

RESIN & METAL BUS KITS

PK 17	Reeve Burgess 'Harrier' Leyland Swift	ASK!	£37.00
PK 35	Beadle "Chatham" AEC B42F M & D	ASK!	£35.00
PK 39	Plaxton Elite Bedford VAM C45F	LAST FEW	£46.00
PK 41	Caetano Estoril II Bedford YRT C53F	2026	Pre-order
PK 50	Commer Avenger Churchill coach	2026	Pre-order
PK 51	East Lancs Royal Tiger [Southdown MCD rebuild]		£40.00
PK 56E	Beadle-Commer integral [East Kent KFN 250-3]		£40.00
PK 56C	Beadle-Commer "Rochester" centre entrance		£40.00
PK 58E	Duple Viceroy 37 Express Ford R192 [1970s]		£46.00
PK 65	Viceroy 37 Bedford VAL [1970s]	2026	Pre-order
PK 71	AEC Regal Beadle rebody (M & D WKM)	ASK!	£40.00
PK 72	Dennis Lancet Park Royal [East Kent CFN OMO rebuild]		£40.00
PK 74	Plaxton Verde DAF SB220 Dublin Bus P class	2026	Pre-order
PK 76	Duple Dominant 1 Bedford SB	ASK!	£42.00
PK 77	Volvo B6 Northern Counties Paladin 9.8m		£40.00
PK 80	Commer Avenger Harrington M & D "Knightrider" LC1	ASK!	£40.00
PK 83	Plaxton Prestige DAF SB 220	2026	Pre-order
PK 85	MCW Metroliner Mk 1 single deck (East Kent/DBG etc.)		Pre-order

EK 4	Park Royal Fleetline 1969 East Kent/M&D RFN series	2026	Pre-order
[Ex TrystCo Models kit]			

POSSIBLE RE-RUNS OF EARLIER KITS/BODIES

PB 10	UVG 'Urbanstar' 9.8m SDL Dart	Pre-order
FAN 17	Duple Commander 1964 AEC/Leyland	Pre-order
Former Fanfare Transport Models kit		
M 3	Beulas Stergo Iveco Eurorider C53F	Pre-order
Former Mirror Image Kit		
LK 03	East Lancs EL2000 Dart SDL 9.8m	Pre-order
Former Lancer Models ki		
LK 10	Platon Paramount 3 Dennis Javelin	Pre-order
Former Lancer Models ki		

ALL OF THE ABOVE need a LOT more orders to be viable but have been requested by customers.

ALTHOUGH MOST PROJECTS ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF BUILD THEY WILL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL THERE IS SUFFICIENT INTEREST TO JUSTIFY PRODUCTION COSTS.

THE LAST TWO KIT RE-ISSUES ARE STILL IN THE RED!

SEE ALSO LANCER MODELS SHEET FOR BMMO (Midland "Red") PROJECTS.

LK 02	Plaxton Beaver Mercedes 811D	[Ex Lancer kit]	SOLD OUT
PV 12	Caetano 'Beja' Fiat 60F10 minicoach		SOLD OUT
RTC 28	Optare Vecta MAN [Ex RTC Models kit]	2026	Pre-order
N.B. this will be made in RESIN not whitemetal!			

SOME OTHER KITS IN PREPARATION: *Pre-Orders accepted for these kits now.*

FAN 02B	1966 Duple Vega Major [as planned by Fanfare]	Pre-order
PK 1310	Caetano Nimbus 10.7m single door	Pre-order
PK 45	Massey lowbridge 30' decker – 1968 PD3 etc	Pre-order
PK 55	MCW Metropolitan Bedford VAM C45F	Pre-order
PK 62	Bedford OB Thurgood	Pre-order
PK 81	Duple 320 Leyland Tiger	Pre-order
PK 82	Duple 340 Leyland Tiger	Pre-order

TK 15	Harrington Wayfarer 1 AEC/Leyland [from TINY list]	Pre-order
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Other items, not mentioned above, may be produced and in addition some earlier kits and bodies could be re-issued if there is sufficient demand.
Stock position changes daily so you are advised to CHECK AVAILABILITY, especially if shown as LIMITED or LAST FEW. Similarly, if interested in a SOLD OUT item let us know in case one becomes available at a future date.

PROJECTED KITS AND BODIES

The following are **PROJECTED**. This does not mean they will definitely appear, as sufficient interest needs to be recorded before production is viable. We **NEED TO KNOW YOU WANT IT!**

PK 36	Plaxton Supreme Bedford VAS	In build
PK 44	Lex Maxeta Bedford YMQ/S	In build
PK 64	YRT Plaxton Elite III	In build
PK 66	Viceroy 37 R226 etc	In build
PK 69	Metro-Scania 10m B—D [LT MS class]	In build
PK 75	not yet announced	
PK 86	Unicar Bedford YRT/YMT	
PK 87	Yeates Riviera Bedford SB	

PV 01	PMT 'AM' Mercedes 811D	In build
PV 11	Wadham Stringer Vanguard 2 Leyland Swift	In build

Bodies:

PB 13	Alexander Y type VAM or LH body B45F	In build
PB 15	Burlingham Seagull Bedford SB body	In build
PB 16	Burlingham Seagull front entrance body Mk VI	In build
PB 17	Burlingham Seagull front entrance body Mk IV	In build

ITEMS IN BOLD ARE READY FOR PRODUCTION AS SOON AS ORDERS ARE SUFFICIENT
ITEMS IN ITALIC ARE PROVISIONAL AND DEPEND ON LEVEL OF INTEREST

PRE-ORDERING

Pre-orders are accepted in writing, by letter, e-mail or on our form. **A postal address is required.** No advance payment is needed as you will be advised when (and if) items become available.

Production is usually only sufficient to meet advance orders with a few spares so the best advice is: pre-order!

Because the master building and casting process is a lengthy one it may be some considerable time before items are issued. If you feel competent to build a master for issue as a kit we will be happy to discuss your project with you.

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you are interested in a kit or body that is sold out PLEASE TELL US. If your name is not on the list and it is re-run, or any become available, **YOU WILL NOT BE TOLD.**

STANDARD TERMS:

Post and packing:	NOTE INCREASED PRICES
KITS & BODIES: £5.00 per order (1-3 kits), £10.00 (4+ kits)	
Overseas: Airmail Signed For at cost ALL ITEMS	
Minimum postage on accessory and parts orders: £2.50	
Maximum postage per UK order: £10.00	
All cheques etc. should be made payable to: A N GOODWIN	
All payments in £. Sterling please.	
Sorry NO CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS or PayPal etc.	
Bank transfers by arrangement. Do NOT transfer money without prior agreement!	
FULL catalogue is £1.50 (2 x 44 class stamps are OK) plus A5 SAE and lists ALL accessories, components, seats, wheels and drawings plus parts from other producers.	
The paragonkits Facebook page has illustrations of all of our kit range. Our own website is suspended pending update.	
ALL ITEMS ARE OFFERED SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY	

© PARAGONKITS 2026

PARAGONKITS

October 2026 update and news



PX 01



PX 01 'full height' lower deck for EFE VRT 2/3 is now back in stock at £15.00 + p&p. If there is any interest in another re-run of PK 58 Duple Viceroy 32 Bedford VAM it could be done.

It may also be possible to get a few more of PK 10 Burlingham 30'x8' bus and PK 24 Leyland bodied Royal Tiger bus. *PK 10 built by George Heaney*

If you are interested in any of these you need to let me know or they won't happen!

.All enquiries and reservations to agoodwin206@mail.com please.

CITIBUS *Models*

CM008

Daimler OM934
Streetdeck 10.6m

- Is being remolded
- Place your orders at

£49.99

UK POST FREE



CM019

Scania Caetano
Levante
tri-axle

Will be priced at

£49.99

UK POST FREE

Overseas postage
at cost

Here is a photo of two built kits.



CM015

Streetlite LWB 10.8m
IN STOCK

Model bus kits of

£48.99

UK POST FREE

Overseas at cost

**IRELAND POSTAGE
POST FREE**



**HIGH QUALITY
RESIN KITS**



**DETAILED
DESIGN**



**UK POST
FREE**

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

www.citibusmodels.co.uk



www.omidekka.comodels.co.uk

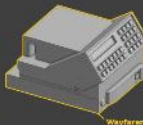


MMC 8.9 PARTS

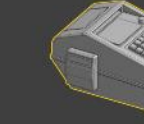


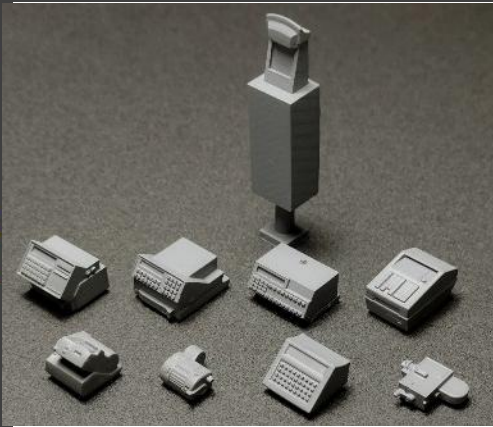








1, Almex A and Setright ticket machines. Ticket machines (pack of 5) - £2.00 plus, £1.50 p&p Fare vaults (pack of 5) - £3.50 plus £1.50 p&p.

Engine cover upgrade for EFE Leyland Nationals. Detailed resin printed part including panel lines, slanted number plate recess and lamp. As shown in photo this is only the engine cover and the original EFE lights are retained. Priced - £2.00 plus £1.50 P&P please [CONTACT ME](#)

Painting figures service

If anyone actually builds from kits or dismantles existing models for rebuild, you might like a driver in the cab. If so and need them painted to a specific uniform colour then please contact [Sue Matthews](#). Here are some of her available figures.

They are all available as follows:- Male/Female with or with out caps, different driver positions and one in situ in a model in production. You'd be surprised at price as well. Great addition to your collection or a selling point!



Simply purchase from [Modelu](#)

And when you add to your basket, in the comments section add send to Sue Matthews then contact her with your requirements.

T i N Y Bus & Coach Kits

KITS & BITS - ISSUE No 1 - OCTOBER 2025

Welcome to the first edition of KITS & BITS .

As a bus modeller of some 60 years +, I have accumulated a large selection of built, part-built and unbuilt kits, hand-built bits and pieces plus a large number of diecasts. With my advancing years, deteriorating health and less chance to spend time on the hobby, despite good intentions, many of these kits will not get completed. Rather than see these items be disposed off in a bin bag when I go to the big bus garage in the sky, I am offering them for sale to fellow modellers at a realistic price.

The first selection is listed below along with prices. Postage is £5 per package for up to 3 kits/models

T i N Y Bus & Coach Kits sales

As far as I can ascertain, kits are complete with all parts

Payment can be made via Cheque or Bank Transfer, details will be supplied

My email for any queries is tinybuskits@gmail.com. Items will be well packed for secure transit and dispatched ASAP.

A new updated list will be issued approx every 4 weeks.

Doug Nicholson, Willow House, 3 Mellor Brow, Mellor, Blackburn Lancs, BB2 7EX

- 1 - Paragon Thurgood PB08 full-front 1950's bodyshell cw with EFE donor SB - £12
- 2 - Paragon Plaxton PB07 M1-48 full front 1950's bodyshell cw with EFE donor SB - £12
- 3 - Paragon Plaxton Venturer 1954, lower panels sprayed green.-£15
- 4 - EFE Leicester MCW Atlantean No box -mint - £13
- 5 - EFE Barton ex Leicester PD1 mint-reboxed = £12
- 6 - Corgi Barton ex LT RTW mint unboxed - £12
- 7 - Corgi Derby Roe trolleybus mint unboxed - £15
- 8 - EFE 34201 LT RLH 90% MB - £14
- 9 - EFE Birkenhead PD2 Orion mint unboxed - £13
- 10 - Corgi Derby Roe trolleybus mint unboxed - -15
- 11 -Corgi 1st issue BET Leopard , still tissue wrapped - £25
- 12- Britbus Tyne & Wear Metrobus 690 mint unboxed - -£18
- 13 - Paragon FAN05A Duple Alpine Continental (long windows)
- 14 - Britbus LLB-08 East Midland Albion 'Lowlander' red - £20

Thanks for looking - more to follow. Enjoy your modelling. Doug, T I N Y



We can now offer our Leyland bus wheels and Duple coach wheels (both front and back) in a set of 4 with modelled flat tyres.

All wheels come with a hole in the back, suitable for a 1mm brass rod, so you can mix these wheels with our standard wheel sets if you wish.

The wheel sets are available in O (1:43), 1:50 and OO (1:76) to match the scales we offer the standard wheel sets. Prices are £8 for O and 1:50, £4 for OO – postage is £4.20 on all orders under £50.

The sets are available to purchase on our website:
<https://threepeaksmodels.co.uk/products/flat-bus-coach-wheel-sets>



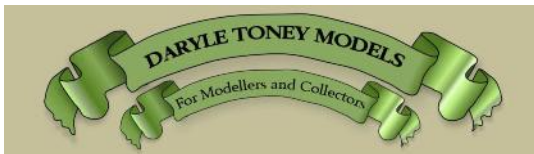
Michael's Models

A unique take on 1/76 models



Welcome to Michael's Models, We've included a selection of buses / vans & lorries previously completed to demonstrate what can be achieved in such a small scale. You'll see working LED screen installs on buses alongside accurate representations of vehicles that use emergency beacons.

<https://www.michaelsmodels.co.uk/>



For more information and see their products, please visit their website at <https://www.johndaymodels.co.uk/> They also have a shop on [ebay](#)

Terry Blois Bus Drawings

Scaled bus drawings for the modeller

Terry Blois 4mm scale Bus and Coach Plans

For those who like to scratch build their own model buses, Terry Blois's website is a great addition to help with your model building. Each drawing is priced at £3.00 or 4 for £10 and postage is £2 per order. Payment options are cheque's you can use the ORDER CONTACT PAGE to get in touch with me to arrange a bank transfer or to pay via Paypal. www.terrybloisbusdrawings.co.uk

Saltire Buses & Model Bus Scotland



East Lancs Myllennium DAF , SMDA1 , Pre orders are now available for this kit. The kit will come as standard with body and chassis /glazing /wheels. Roof pods can be bought separately for this kit to make it in to the gas bus version London ran. Email saltirebuses@gmail.com



Plaxton Cheetah XL , SMC1, Is now available for pre orders

volvo plaxton profile. SMF1, This kit will come with printed glazing/ front window/ wheels/ removable toilet unit section and 2 removable seats.



So, what would everyone's thoughts be on a StreetDeck kit and an Enviro400 MMC kit?

I know there are already die-cast models available for both, but would there be any interest in having them produced as resin kits as well ?

It would be great to hear everyone's thoughts and whether you think there would be a demand for either-or both-of these kits.



Enviro 300 Kit – Re-Run!

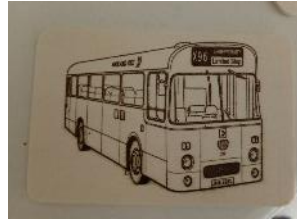
We're looking at getting another batch of the Enviro 300 kits re-run and would like to gauge interest before going ahead. If you'd be interested in ordering one of these kits, please send us a message via the MBS page or get in touch by email. If there's enough interest, we'll look at getting another batch produced! modelbusscotland@gmail.com Re run December 2026



N-Gauge 1954 Strachan Bodied Trojan DT Bus £6.95 visit our, [website](#) N-Gauge Bristol LH Based Recovery Vehicle £9.50

N-Gauge Bristol LHS Bus £9.50. Both model wills compliment any 60s/70s/80s era layout, or even giving a retro feel to a modern day display.

Carl's engraving



My name is Carl, and a few months ago I decided to start engraving, as you can see, I have sent a few of non-bus items as a idea of what can be done.

I have done a few of buses and am able to also make colour pictures of buses and make into coasters, if anyone wants something done, please send me the image and I will do what I can, it doesn't have to be bus related it can be anything practical. Prices are £6.00 gbp inc p/p, all come fully varnished and glossed coat, can be used as coaster or just decorative plates, please do not hesitate to contact me on my email address. Many thanks for your help Key rings are £4.00 Inc p/p

Contact details, Email. 1072dc@gmail.com Phone. 07594170862

JMH Engineering



JMH Engineering designs, manufactures and sells a range of 1/76 Bus Kits in the UK

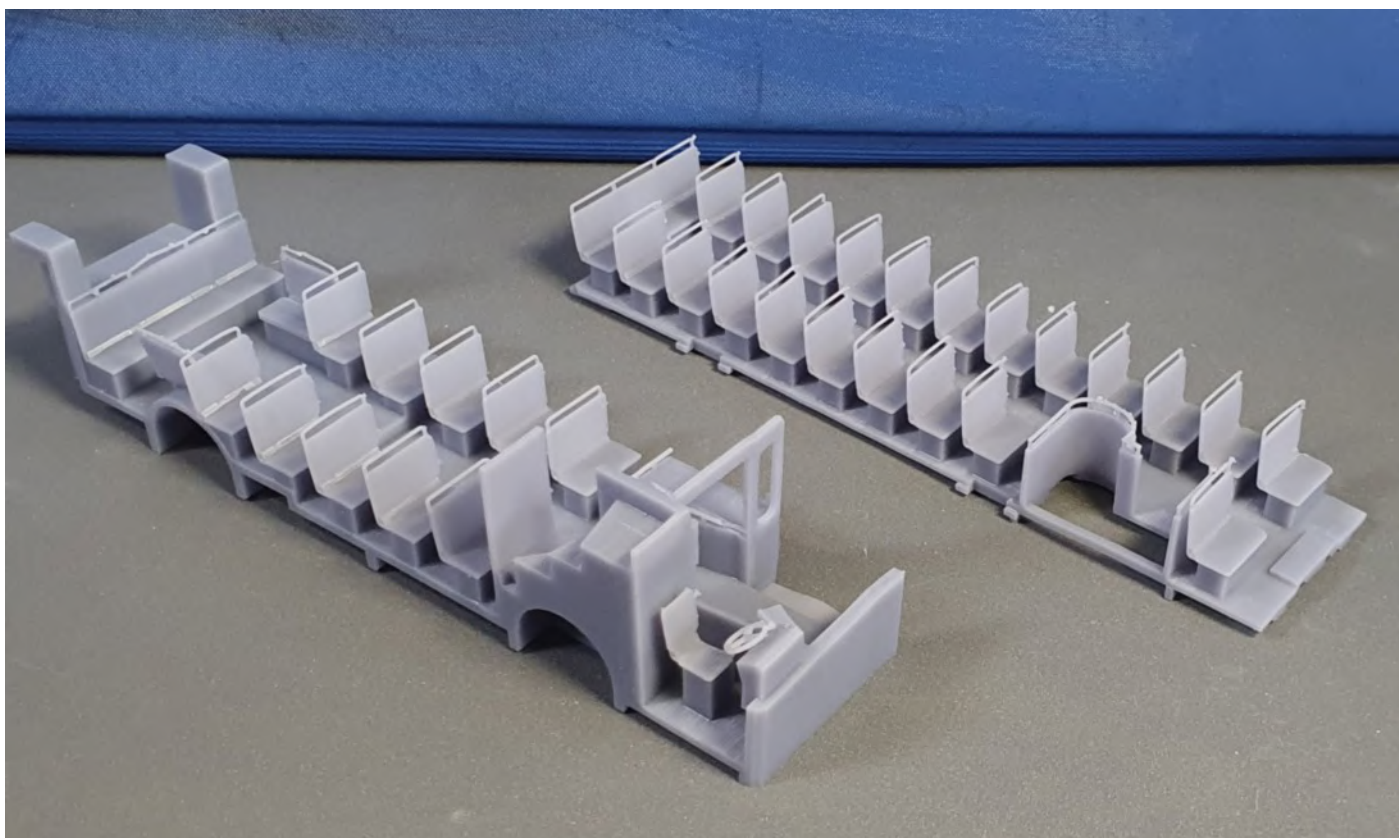
We're pleased to say that the very first test print of the Alex bodied MCW came out perfectly! A fairly momentous occasion since there's been something to tweak on pretty much every other kit to get them to come out correctly.

We've taken on board feedback from customers who've asked if the base can be separated out from the body, so the kit now has a one-piece bodysell and a separate chassis with seats, and further separate upper deck seating unit.

There's still a lot of work to do (like getting all of these elements to fit together nicely, and creating the artwork for the usual transfers etc.) but we do hope to release this towards the end of September or early October.

Please feel free to email or message us if you would like to reserve any, this helps give us an idea of how many to produce for the first run buskits@pintsonline.co.uk





First pictures of the test model of our AL-bodied MCW as ordered by Alexander Midland, fleet numbers MRM1, 2 & 3. The new separate bodyshell goes together very nicely and we will look to update some of our older kits to this. These will soon be available on our webstore but if you would like to pre-order any please drop us a message at buskits@pintsonline.co.uk



P & D Marsh Models



All our products are manufactured in our own workshop in the UK. Most are made from whitmetal (a tin/lead alloy). Our range has more than 750 models in N and OO including kits for you to make and paint yourself and a growing number that are hand painted and ready for immediate use. [WEBSITE](#)

RayRimes Designs



Leyland National Mk1 Single-Decker Bus £7.00, comes in 3 versions, Standard 2 door, 3 door Airport bus and Specail edition BA bus. Please visit our [website](#) for more info.



Specialists on
TT scale bus
-New or used
-modified Code 3
-Order to made



Follow us on

 [Quentin's Minibus Garage](#)

for latest release

T: 07311 899 517



!! SOON AVAILABLE KITS !! FULL KIT

Ldv Convoy Lwb 16x Seat Minicoach Kit

Have a limited number of spare kits from non payers and spare over of my 1996 to 2006 ldv convoy this is the coach version with 2x large windows coach bodied by the likes of excel, central, olympus just to name a few and model will come as a full kit with the following:

1x casted resin body shell , 1x casted resin chassis/seats, 4x casted wheels , 2x axels, 1x set of printed glazing , 1x resin steering wheel , Price is £30 + £4 postage (covers you safely up to 4x kits) if you would like to reserve one or more info , please drop me a email at kernowbuskit@gmail.com



3D PRINTING CORNER
MODEL ACCESSORIES FOR ENTHUSIASTS

*Small details
make a big
difference*

Latest Additions to our Range



Bus Rooftop
AC Unit



Bus Side
Advert Boards



Optare Wipers

Special offer for Midland Bus members

5% OFF all products

Code: **OCTOBER5**

Valid until 31st October

*Support
small
business*
♥



Can't Find What You're Looking For?

We also take on custom commissions. If there's a particular part or accessory you need that you can't find anywhere else, get in touch with us.
Send us a photo, drawing or dimensions and we'll have a look to see if we can help.



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info@3dprintingcorner.co.uk

UK based ~ Designed & produced in-house

*For
the bus
modelling
community*

Events

MidlandBus Kits

CHRISTMAS CRACKER 19TH DECEMBER 2026

The Post Mill House Centre
Market St, Alfreton DE55 2EJ

MidlandBus Kits

ANNUAL MODEL BUS SHOW

SATURDAY 27TH MARCH 2027

The Post Mill House Centre
Market St, Alfreton DE55 2EJ

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW VENUE LOCATION AND DATE



MODEL BUS FEDERATION

MBF Scotland
ANNUAL MODEL BUS SHOW
Sunday 1st November 2026



we are only a few minutes walk from Bishopton Railway Station and for those travelling by car simply enter the postcode into your cars satnav! free parking available SO PLEASE COME ALONG there's so much to see at our show If you require any further details please contact our Area Secretary on 01505 862937

Bishopton Community Centre
Greenock Road,
PA7 5AU

adults
£2
admission
kids enter
FREE
if accompanied
by a paying adult



doors open from
8am - 4pm

we extend a warm welcome to everyone attending our
ANNUAL MODEL BUS SHOW
come along - there's plenty to see!

PLEASE REMEMBER
Our annual show is open to both the public as well as to MBF members
So please come along, everyone is welcome

motorised model bus display
transport related book sales
model bus sales
MBF raffle
MBF cafe
static model bus displays
MBF members competition
and so much more!
doors open from 8am - 4pm

for further details regarding the MBF Scotland Show
(including MBF members who wish to book a table)
please contact our Area Secretary
Mick Claisse 01505 862937

MBF Scotland
find us on
facebook

MODELEX
North West



Model Displays & Layouts
Museum Model Stall
Shuttle Bus to Shudehill

Model Transport Exhibition
Saturday 27 February 2027
10am - 4.30pm | Standard Museum Admission Applies
motgm.uk | Boyle Street, Cheetham
Manchester M8 8UW

Workshop Model Transport Exhibition - The
Crossing Church and Centre, Newcastle Street,
Workshop S80 2AT - 05/09/2026

MBF Chester Model Bus Show - St Columba's
Church Hall, Plas Newton Lane, Chester,
CH2 1PL - 03/10/2026

MBF Scotland Area Show - Bishopton
Community Centre, Greenock Road, Bishopton
PA7 5AU - 01/11/2026

MBS ANUAL SHOW

31st OCTOBER



ST ANDREWS CHURCH BARRHEAD
2 Ralston Rd, Barrhead, Glasgow
G78 2QQ



Entry Fee is
£3

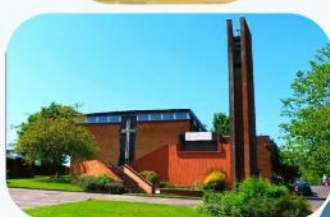
Sales stalls
model displays



cafe
soup/ hot food
tea/ coffee

raffle

model competition



TIME
10AM till 3PM

Our annual MBS show will be coming back 31st October. Time 10AM till 3PM

Enter fee will be £3 per person on the day. (To members of the public)

If you would like a table for displaying it will be £2 (1 table) if you would like to bring your own tables that's fine. If you would like a table for selling stuff it will be £5 (2 tables) if you would like to bring your own tables that's fine If you would like to book a table please comment on the post or email

modelbusscotland@gmail.com

There will be a cafe on the day selling. soup/ hot food /tea & coffee. Along with the raffle on the day lots of prizes to be won- The model competition will Be back again.

(Entries will be charged at £1) (More details will be added up about the competition what classes there is) prize money and trophies to be won (please note we can only get the Saturday for setting up tables. Time for set up is 8AM till 9AM then the doors will open at 10AM (please remember don't turn up at 8AM if you're not setting up doors open at 10AM to the public.

This we'll be held at St Andrews Community hall in Barrhead. There are plenty of transport links to Barrhead. Number 3 McGills and shuttle buses 395 all stop right outside the church. Along with the Barrhead railway station only 2 minutes walk. Also there is 2 carparks on site.

St Andrews church Barrhead, 2 Ralston Rd, Barrhead, Glasgow G78 2QQ

Please note there are 2 car parks both can be used along with the disabled bay outside the hall door. Entrance is at the side of the hall. There will be plenty of signs up to show you where the hall is.

Model Bus SCOTLAND



MEETING DATES

Join us for our
upcoming Model Bus
Scotland meetings.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**£2 ENTRY FEE
TIME 10:30 TILL 2:30**

**St. Andrew's Parish Church
2 Ralston Rd, Barrhead,
Glasgow G78 2QQ**

26/09/26
31/10/26 (ANNUAL SHOW)
12/12/26
13/2/27
17/4/27
12/6/27
14/8/27
11/12/27

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING!

MBM

THE MODEL BUS MEET
AT OXFORD BUS MUSEUM

**SUNDAY 8TH
NOVEMBER 2026
10:00-16:00**

OXFORD BUS MUSEUM
HANBOROUGH RAIL STATION Yard,
Main Rd, Long Hanborough, Witney
OX29 8LA

GETTING THERE
Oxford Bus Museum is immediately adjacent to
Hanborough Railway Station, and is accessed
through one small part of the station car park.

Parking is extremely limited on-site, and visitors will
be asked to park in the larger nearby station car park,
accessed via the yellow arrow on the map. Parking
here is chargeable, at a rate of £2.80 for the Sunday
[at time of writing].

Most exhibitors will, however, be able to park on-
site free of charge. This will be on a first-come, first
served basis. The front of the museum will be used
for drop-off of displays, before exhibitors are directed
to park.

Hanborough station has links to a variety of national
destinations, whilst the S7 bus service provides
regular links to Oxford and Witney.

MUSEUM ENTRY
Visitors will be asked to pay the museum standard admission
fee, see their website for further details. Exhibitors' trade
stands will gain free admission to the museum, and will be
provided with a wristband to wear for the day, upto a maximum
of two per stand.

The museum will be operating its normal range of activities
throughout the day to enhance the offer.

REFRESHMENTS
The museum will be providing a range of refreshments,
including hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, etc. at their on-site
cafe.

For exhibitors and traders, free tea and coffee, as well as lunch
(details TBC), will be provided free of charge as a thank you for
supporting the event.



DISPLAYS/ TRADE STANDS
Displays and trade stands are free to book, and will be spread
into several zones throughout the museum. There are both
heated and unheated spaces at the museum - we know it is
likely to be cold, and hence will use the heated space first.

If it is necessary to use unheated space, exhibitors will
be prioritised for the heated areas over trade stands. We
appreciate this is not ideal - as this is a new event, we do
not yet know how popular it will be. If we need the unheated
space, we will look into options for providing some level of
heat (e.g. space heaters) to make things manageable.

The museum has a limited number of tables and chairs
available in a variety of sizes - if you have your own, it would
be a massive help. For this reason, please let us know the
approximate size of the display you would like to bring when
booking, and if you do not need tables/ chairs. Power will
not be available at this event.

To book a table, please email modelbusmeet@gmail.com
or send us a message on the Model Bus Meet Facebook
Page.

OXFORD BUS MUSEUM
Morris Motors Museum

MBM

THE MODEL BUS MEET

08.11.2026

10:00 - 16:00

DISPLAYS - TRADE STANDS - MUSEUM ENTRY - REFRESHMENTS - MUCH MORE



OXFORD BUS MUSEUM
Morris Motors Museum

HANBOROUGH RAIL STATION Yard, Main
Rd, Long Hanborough, Witney OX29 8LA

Something for your Diary MBC are supporting this event with some exciting new products and our Event Competition held on the day. We're really excited to be organising a brand new event for the model bus community - the model bus meet, held at Oxford Bus Museum on Sunday 8th November from 10:00 - 16:00. This event has been a long time in the making, with a lot of work behind the scenes. We're hoping to host a variety of displays and trade stands at the museum on the day, and would love to see you there. We've compiled some information about the event in the images you see below. This includes information (preferably via an email to the address given) on how you can book a table, if you would like to. We've also set up an event on Facebook for this. We will be updating both this page and the event with information when needed. The event is at <https://www.facebook.com/events/4408587819385953/> This is a real step into the unknown for us and we hope it will be a success. More news will follow in due course as we near the event. Thanks, Iwan and Ryan

WKJ 787 – Another bespoke N Gauge Model – Ken Jones West Midland N Gauge Club



WKJ 787 – another bespoke N Gauge Model – Ken Jones West Midland N Gauge Club, WKJ 787 – A Beadle Rochester demonstrator fitted with Commer TS3 engine which provides unique sound and performance. Spent early working life with Moss Tours on the Isle of Wight. Fitted with a re-conditioned engine and increased cooling by Roger Burdett in 2006 and is one of only 2 TS3s normally on the road.

As we continue to make a miniature collection of Roger Burdett's vehicles in N Gauge, we chose WKJ 787 which is preserved in Island Queen livery. The bespoke model was made for me in 2013. He also did the painting and bespoke rear transfers were done for us by Roy Finney

WKJ 787 Commer was the prototype Integral for Beadle Rochester. Here are 2 pictures of the model on one of my layouts. My pictures of the actual coach can be seen at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/82409929@N08/37352342395/in/photolist-YUGw4n-ek4iTQ/> and <https://www.flickr.com/photos/82409929@N08/8748296938/in/photolist-YUGw4n-ek4iTQ/>

Your Models - Simon Lock



First full re spray, depicting C&G National 3, 304. Basically it started off as an EFE Thamesway Long For years i had been trying to find pictures, images of all the Western Travel logos, Cheltenham, Gloucester and Stroud, and being a Stroud boy, Stroud Valleys Nationals (1&2s) were my childhood, but couldn't find the logos to create decals anywhere, so the projects have always been on the back burner, until about a month ago.



Ticket to Ride decals had just produced all three, the project was back on. I started with the revised Cheltenham as all the masking was straight lines. I used Montana Gold paints, Shock Red and Beige Sahara, and a Colour Forge Standard Grey Primer. Apart from the company logos, all the other decals are home made on waterslide inkjet paper, and all i needed to do was find pictures or videos of the real thing to get the right placements for lettering and adverts etc. and the interior was sprayed the same dark grey as the upper body and seat covers painted red.

Venture Park - Matt Hindes



Felix of Stanley, Ilkeston with one of it's Plaxton Premiere's (W709 PTO) at Venture Park

Your Model Buses- Matthew Clark



AE62 MCV Mercedes OC500LE/MCV Evolution Citibus Models Kit. Acquired in 2024 to run alongside Mercedes Citaros on our Coastlink X34 service from Redcar to Whitby via the coast for which it carries basic Coastlink branding. A very popular member of the fleet.

Your Model Buses- Roger Pope



Midland Bus Kits Nottingham
City Transport Leyland Atlantean kit
Seen here representing Guide Friday

Your Model Buses -Brandon Howarth



This was part of the archway bus fleet but turned into a burger bus called Baz Stop

Archway Transport -Brandon Howarth

I wanted to create a layout of the Archway HQ.
I believe I'm the first person to ever create one!
[#theonlywayisarchway](#)



The Fylde Villager - I bought the evora model when I visited the Alfreton model bus show, I gave it a few coats of white paint, painted the red stripes free handedly and added the amazing, illustrated decal onto each side of the bus.





The Archway Truck – Bought as an ex-haulage livery (Eddie Stobart), this truck was painted white all over, grey on the roof, front rims painted red and free handedly painted the archway logo onto both sides of the truck. I also thought a union jack flag would look great at the back of the truck, so I painted that on too! I believe Archway has a union jack on one of their vehicle's.



This is the second model I bought from the Alfreton model bus show, which was painted white. I re-painted the body red, free handedly painted the yellow stripes and added the archway logo decals and left the roof white. This bus primarily gets used for school runs, rail replacements and private hire.

Similar to the model above, this was my first piece to add to my Archway collection.

Again, I painted it red, free handedly painted the yellow stripes and added the archway logo decals and kept the top of the bus cream.



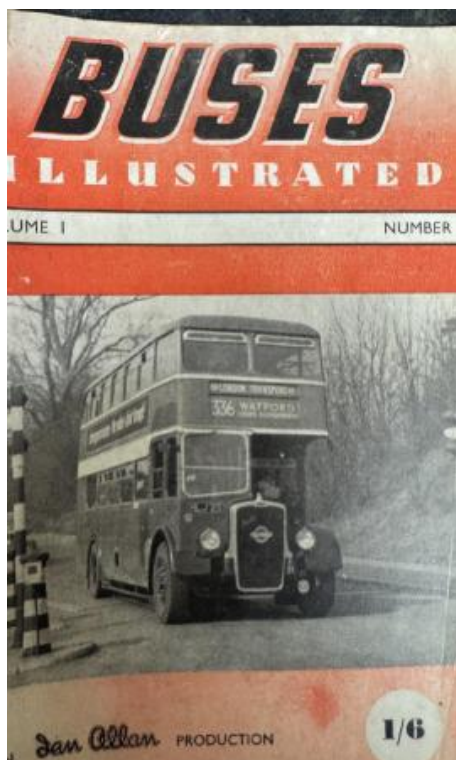
School bus line up – Volvo eclipse model, this model was originally an ex Blackpool Transport model, I re-painted it grey, then added Archway decals to the sides and back. This particular bus, is used for school runs.

This bus was originally a Go Whippet bus, blue and cream, I re-painted it white to look like another Archway school bus, it also gets used for private hire and rail replacement journeys.

Well I've made to 80! - John Finney

Overnight my high blood pressure has cured itself, apparently over 80 it doesn't matter if it's bordering on high. I've suddenly become a dirty old man with a dolly bird for a wife, she is younger than me, just. Then I realised life has suddenly got better, I'd hit the jackpot, I was rich beyond belief. The government have just increased their contribution to my 'buy a bus' fund by 25p per week. I looked on eBay and I've found 2 M17 matchbox buses with a bid on them of £2.70, there not in bad nick either. So I might put a bid in of 3 quid and secure them at £1.50 per bus. If I save up for 6 weeks I could afford one, if the seller would split them. But in 6 weeks they will be gone. I could pay over 3 months (apparently) but I wouldn't have the deposit as I've not got my first payment yet, the government pay in arrears, so I'll get the last one after I'm dead, great. (I actually got them £10.70, which means buying them with my new found riches I've now got to live until I'm 90) it set me thinking about how much we pay for our models, and why we buy those particular models.

My early buses were a bought for me buy my parents of course, the first one being a pre war Dinky, before I could even walk. I think my dad was a secret bus enthusiast before it became 'legal' so to speak. He was very knowledgeable about them for an electrician and of course 'when I were a lad' there was many prewar buses still in regular service, along with trams and trolleybuses, so it was a great time to get interested and when buses illustrated came along, bi monthly at that times' it was like buses had arrived.



In 1953 along came the famous number 5 from 'Matchbox' a rather nice model with a very sharp cornered AEC type bonnet costing 10d (4.5p) with Dinkys at about 1/-9d (less than 10p) but Dinky's were still king and their 29 C (209) in it's various guises was the real king of kings. I'm not saying its not been surpassed but almost every boy must have had at least one. Then a whole cloudburst of lead kits arrived in the sixties, probably the most prolific manufacturers being Anbrico and Pirate at around £7. My wages were about £20 pr week by that time so it was a rare occasion when I bought one or had one bought for me. Now I've got to live until I am 90 to stand a chance of building all of those I've got! As I know many of us have. There was a smattering of other manufacturers around, Johillco, Benbros, Taylor and Barratt, Morestone, Budgie and Chad Valley, to name but a few however they were not serious contenders, the first 3 being virtually worthless at that time as they were prewar models and we all wanted modern stuff with more detail.

If you wanted a proper scale model you built it yourself, and there was some really good scratch builders around. There is a MGO coach in Wollaton Hall in Nottingham and the detail is fantastic.

Goodness knows how many of the various Matchbox number 5s were made over its 4 designs and Dinky with its 29c and 290 (same model, different number but with variations, my favourite being the last type of AEC). Prices on all these vary immensely from 'around a pound' up to £30 and more depending on box and condition. The pre war model with the short stairs on the platform and its smaller but older brother the Q-type considerably more. As well as buses both companies made coaches, matchbox 21 the Bedford-Duple SB coach, firstly a small one, in common with the size of the first number 5 and then a larger one, this model being a really good casting, basic but good. Again both are plentiful and relatively cheap unless absolutely immaculate with a box.

Buses illustrated number one from 70 odd years ago. Genuine, not a copy.

Dinky of course had 2 coaches being made just after the war, the streamlined coach, a small casting, a hanger on from prewar, the post war having no rear window. Basically it was the model of the prize winning Holland coach craft van with windows in. The other one was the half cabbed luxury coach, the mainstay of many a toy fleet post war. Decent ones of both models start at around £15 each but of course mint much more. In those days Dinkys didn't come boxed, they came in yellow trade carton of 6, one of those with mint models would certainly cost a pretty penny.

Then strangely enough both companies seemed to get on the wrong bus, Dinky with their modern Maudsley Luxury coach which in its self was nice, but hardly seen everywhere or anywhere for that matter, and the same chassis makers 'observation coach', it would have been more realistic as a Foden. Then to top the 'rarity on the road act', the Leyland Royal Tiger, Duple Roadmaster, in model form is prolific, in real life almost as rare as hens teeth. Matchbox also made a Royal Tiger too, this time a model of a prototype getting some of its inspiration from a Ford Anglia by the look of it. Again a good casting actually looking more realistic than its rather plasticky Mulliner bodied close relative made by Triang in their 'Spot on' range. By now the smaller less well known makers were beginning to feel the pinch a bit, Corgi had come along and muscled in on the field with their rather poor Routemaster, but it did have a conductor and driver, and the Midland Red supposed 100mph plus motorway coach. Only thing was you had to go and sit by the M1 to see one. All are relatively easy to find, 'Dinky' and 'Matchbox' being the most popular. Prices ran from a couple of quid for the matchbox one up to about £15 for a nice one. Mint and boxed of course are substantially more. Dinkys with rare colour combinations are more sought after and the red and yellow dual tone matched pair of luxury coach and Royal tiger are really scarce. The 'Spot on' Mullioned bodied coach, even in a poor condition demands a good price as it was very expensive new and a good one is hard to find. There is one on eBay at just over £600 now. Another expensive Triang model was the pressed steel AEC Regent 5' ride on' with a tin front. The most common ones is the red London Transport version, but it also comes in Sheffield and Glasgow liveries. A single decker, literally half the double decker with a roof was made. This came in London Transport green or a strange bluey green colour. Very few around now at less than £150, in fact few around at all.

To be continued.



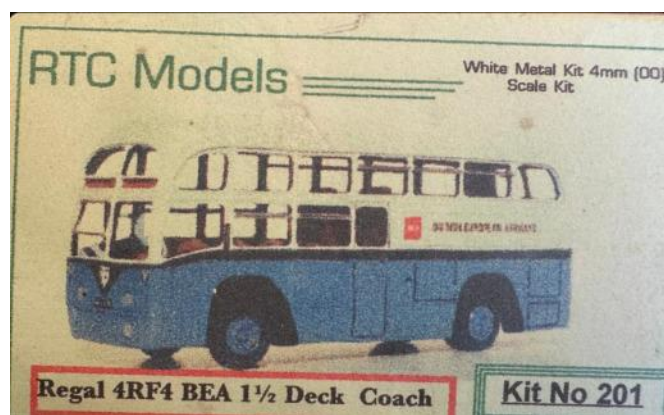
2 MBs 17s referred to in the article at just over a tenner for the pair. N both in nice Nick.



The first and the last of the Matchbox number 5 models.



The standard bus in the model fleet for years, a Park Royal bodied AEC Regent 3 complete with chrome radiator surround, dustbin lids and an advert on the front saying 'shop @ Finney Electrics' which was shown on most service buses, deckers and saloons.



Two of many kits which I need to build up, sometime.



'Matchbox Bedford SB', the later big version. I have one in plastic, around 1:43 scale. A nice model which looks good with a coat of paint.



Dinky's first coach model, basically the Holland coachcraft van with windows.



A trade box of 29 e coaches, before they were individually boxed. There is a couple that's almost mint but the others are playeorn.



Transplanted front on to the observation coach so it can masquerade as a Foden. Just to allay the fears of following traffic wondering where the noisy sports car was, it would be the bus in front with a raucous Foden 2 stroke engine.



Dinky 29 e half cab coach, this one's earning its keep in the driving school after it's retirement.



A Leland Roulax tiger from the Sherwood coachlines fleet based in Mansfield. Its sister coach is with another subsidiary, In the cream and 2 blues livery of 'Devon Cream' the cream of Devon's coaches' base in Devon.



The Maudsley luxury coach which morphed in to an AEC to fit into an almost exclusively AEC fleet.



And finally the Triang spot on Mulliner bodied coach , yours for around £600 apparently.

Matchbox buses - Chris Fletcher

When I was a kid, I never dreamt that I would still be messing around with Matchbox buses sixty years later. I managed to grow out of most of my toys, even my Lego, but somehow the child in me could not quite let go of the buses. They sat in the attic for a few decades during my adulthood, later finding a role on my N-gauge model railway, but were displaced when 'proper' N-gauge buses appeared. Even then, they avoided the car boot, and came back down the Ramsey ladder with a vengeance, multiplying to 1200 in number in every colour under the sun and totally dwarfing my 1/76 collection. I rarely buy anything bigger than 1/120 nowadays.

With 1/76s you have to be choosy, you can't cover everything or you'll be broke and have no living space. No such problems with Matchboxes. You can park four in the space of one 1/76, and beaten-up examples cost less than a first-class stamp. This means you can take risks when painting or modifying them, what's the worst that can happen? I have reproduced hundreds of liveries, some better than others, applying healthy dollops of modeller's licence. Most of my buses are UK in the 1960-1990 era, but there are plenty of exceptions. I don't seek out mint examples, I leave them for collectors, but if one does come my way, it will be left unharmed.

A repainted toy is still a toy, and can't compete with a proper scale model for accuracy and detail, for a start most are not glazed and there are few suitable decals for fleetnames and destinations. Also the range of types is limited, challenging when trying to create a sensible fleet, but it's great fun trying.

One fleet that is easy to recreate is of course London, a fleet I avoided in 1/76 due to the sheer range of vehicles, and, to be fair, London isn't in my top tier interest wise – but that's the joy of matchboxes, you can do your second/third tier companies without having to move home.

Matchbox and other makers love London's iconic motor buses as they sell all over the world. But let's start with the trams and trolleys. Like most of Lesney's models the tram was one piece, one colour, so the body was all-over red and lacking the cream relief, but with a cream plastic roof. Various period adverts, destinations and LT fleetnames were applied as decals, not bad for a toy. Later HK imitations lacked some of the detail. The trolleybus (56a) also came with several adverts and detailed destinations, but needs a brown/black roof and cream lining. This casting is smallish, bordering on N-gauge.



Overview of the main London-ready types

Lesney's other all-red double deckers had fewer details, and also need other colours added here and there, but are ready to fit straight into an LT fleet.

5a – basic half cab d/d, tiny, closer to N-gauge, passable as an STL.

5b – half-cab d/d, a larger and more solid bus, perhaps an RT.

5c/5d – RM. The 5c is the nicer casting, but the bigger 5d has plastic interior floors/seats. Can be used to create RMLs, ERM, six-leggers, open toppers

74 – Daimler Fleetline, suitable for London's XA and XF classes. Also issued in green for country buses (also cream).

17f – DMS. Rear can be filed to create the B20 look. Also issued in Silver Jubilee, and can be converted to an open top (etc.).

17g – Leyland Titan, can create an open top, or stretched to create (unauthentic but fun) Titanic or 6-wheeler Tritanic.

Corgi also did a poor version of the DMS, some with passengers adorning the blackened windows, but later produced a much better Enviro in Paralympics 2012 livery which fits the bill perfectly. Peak Horse produced a very nice Metrobus in London (and other) liveries, a glazed model rather than a toy, but need to fix the incorrect yellow exit doors on the Airbus version. Peak Horse or its imitators also did a really cheap and nasty toy Titan. There is also the more recent Mattel MBX two story (sic) bus, whose garish liveries can be toned down to LT red. The Tomica F15 (or 95) London Bus is also a nice glazed model, a great fit, although not representing a London type.

Many of the above can be done in green for LT's country and Green Line fleets, later LCBS green and yellow, or indeed NBC leaf green. Grey-Green is a nice livery to do on (for example) the Titan, representing the Olympians which operated LT service 24. And don't forget LT's own red/yellow Shop Linker and Harrow Buses' red/ivory.

London is also very well served in my other preferred scale, N, but that's for another time.

I may be considered bonkers, toying as I do with Matchbox buses, but I'm not alone. There are 2200 of us in the Matchbox Buses group on [Facebook](#). If you, or a friend, need support, do pop along.



Last days of the trolleybuses at a fictional bus station on the country border.



A later era of red, London Country now a separate company going into NBC ownership.



Trams and trolleys, including non-London repaints. The tram on the left is actually N-gauge (by Oxford)



London Country in NBC days, including RML and ERM conversions.