

[View this email in your browser](#)



February 2022

MIDLAND BUS KITS NEWSLETTER 5

Normally January drags, but it didn't hang around this year. Feb already and well on the way to events starting up. Nice to see Bus rallies starting to be advertised so we can all get back to what we used to enjoy.

This month sees the announcements of new kit releases from ourselves, Paragon Kits and Model bus Scotland. Also the amazing 3D Printing corner has some great accessories for your diaramas. This months Kit producer is George Heaney, a lovely man I have had the great pleasure of chatting to. Phil Lacey shows us his Barton Scratchbuilds and kits. And lots more to read. So as that TV commercial says, "Get the good biscuits" and what ever your favourite tipple is and enjoy. Daryl

Please keep your contributions coming in to midlandbuskits@outlook.com we love to see your pics and read your emails.

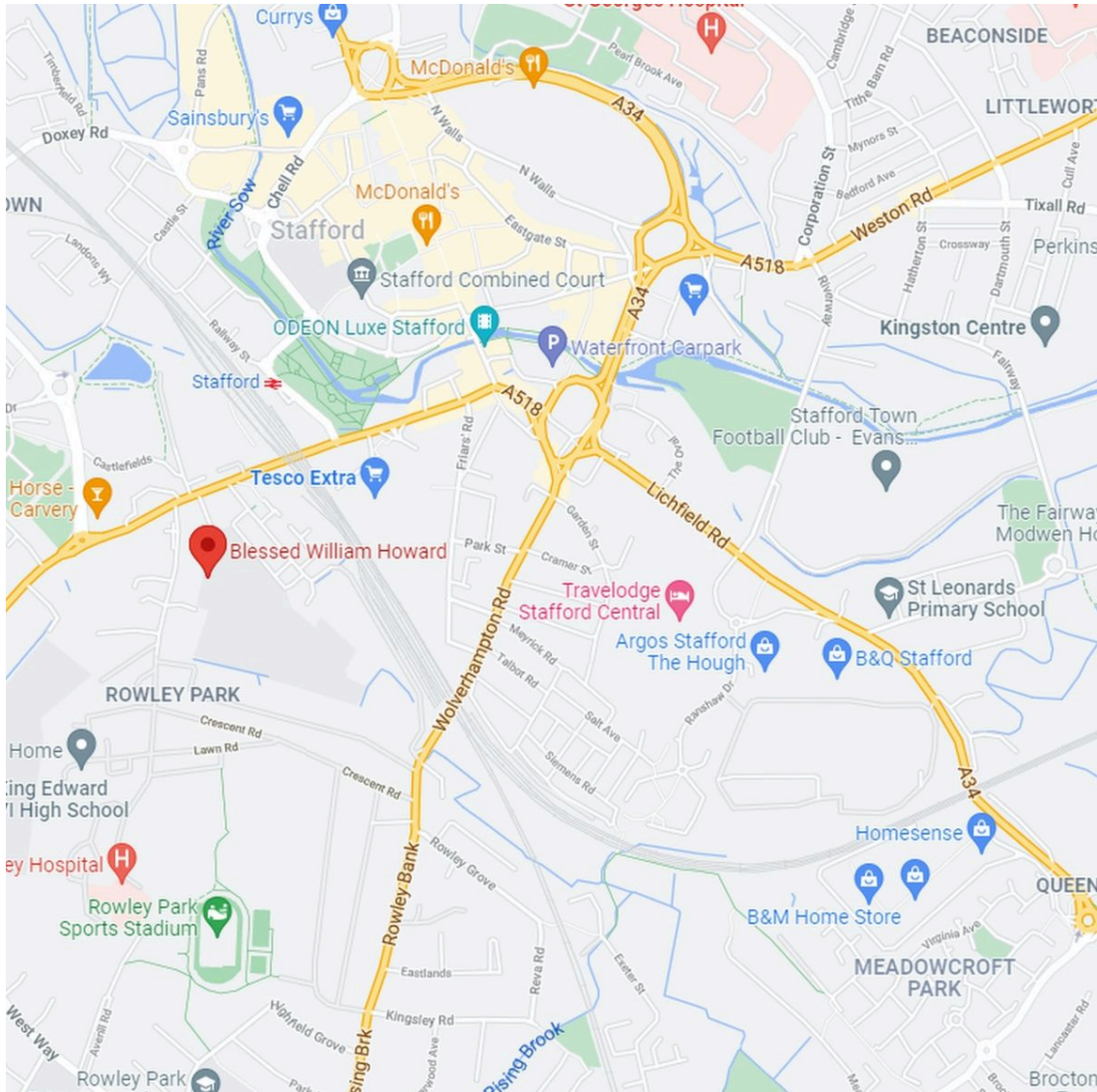
Midland Bus Kits - the home of friendly bus modellers

EVENTS

The 43rd Model Bus Extravaganza at Stafford on 19th February 2022

This what was previously at Crewe and is a public event.

Admission price of £2.00 10.00 to 15.30



Latest kit announcements-

MBK006 Plaxton Panther LE 14.6m three axle Volvo B8RLE 350hp Euro 6



£49 each. Just waiting for glazing and windscreens but you can register your interest now by emailing us at midlandbuskits@outlook.com

MBK007 Carlyle bodied Ford Transit 16 seater, is currently sold out on the first run and a second run will be sorted should we get another 10 pre orders. The kit is a one piece resin shell / resin interior and wheels & mirrors. Also with 3D printed wipers and steering wheel and a moulded windscreen

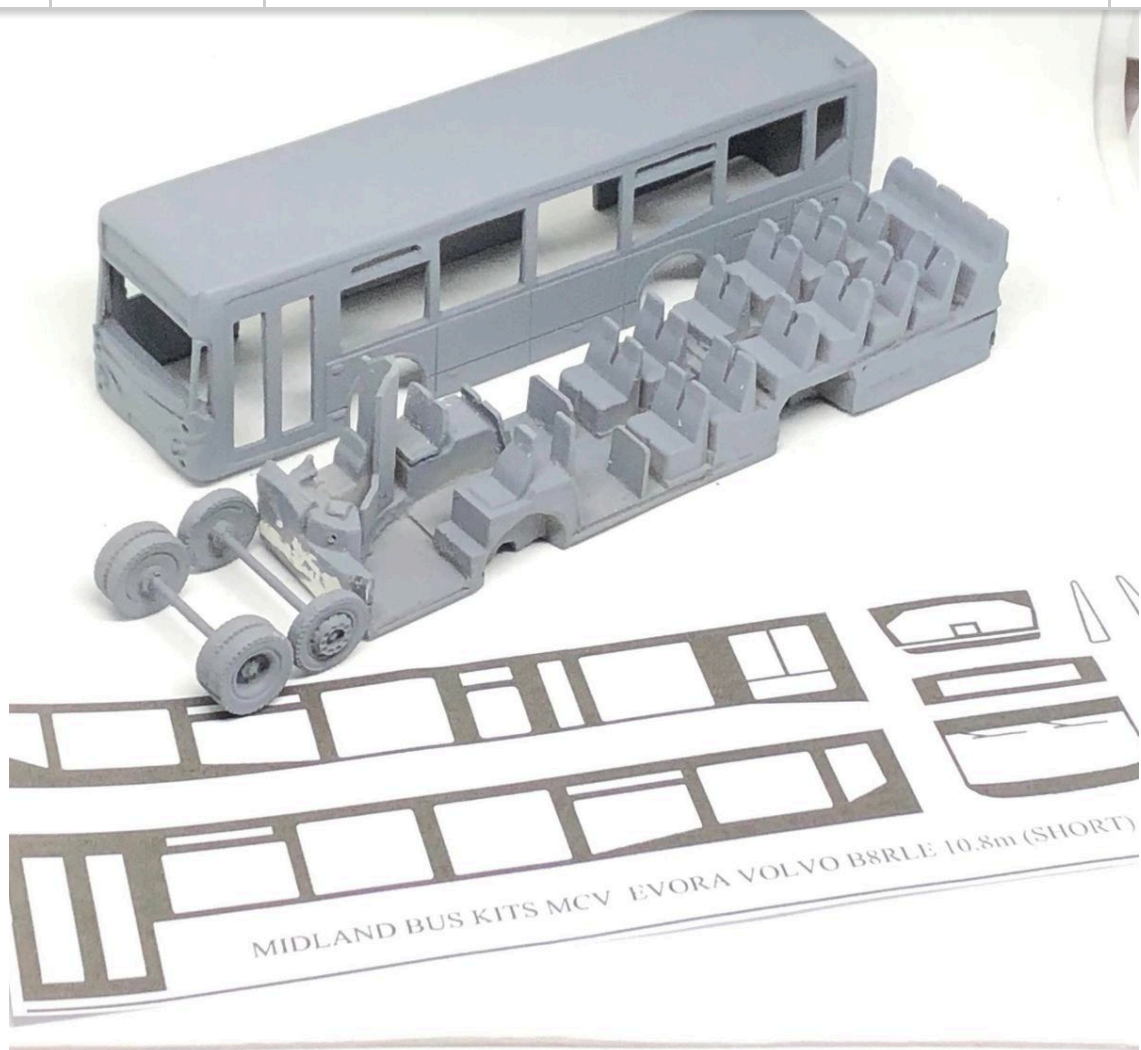
Kits will be £37 each plus postage . Pre orders via email please at midlandbuskits@outlook.com



MBR008 VOLVO B8 MCV EVORA 10.8m £42 plus £4.20

to pre-order get in touch at midlandbuskits.com





MBK009 Ford Transit Carlyle 20 seater £37 and postage £4.20

Register your interest at midlandbuskits@outlook.com





This Month's theme:
Meet the folk behind the hobby - No 3 Sunrise Transfers and Kits -



In this new series we will be meeting the folk who work in the 'Engine Room' of the model bus hobby, the kit producers. By 311

The name Sunrise first appeared on the model scene in 2007 when George Heaney switched his long career in public transport planning and provision from the employed to the self-employed sector. With a little less time being spent on 1:1 buses, he started to introduce what was to become the most comprehensive high quality range of transfers available to the bus modeller.

Hailing from Glasgow, it was perhaps inevitable that much of the transfer range, which has grown over the years, initially catered mainly for Scottish operators, the municipals, SBG, MacBraynes and many independents.

George has been a keen modeller for many years, again mainly Scottish operators but with a growing interest in buses from over the water in Ireland. Unable to obtain the models he required to develop his Scottish collection, a decision to produce his own kits under the Sunrise banner was made and the first one appeared in 2012.

year and adding in kits which come with alternative parts, over one hundred kits have been made available to bus and rail modellers. Illustrations of many of the kits produced can be found on the ModelBusZone site which carries comprehensive information on most kit producers.

The problem for some bus modellers in painting lining or intricate parts was tackled in an interesting way using the skills George has developed in the transfer production process. Rather than produce kits with over scale beading as still happens on some current day kits, including beading which did not exist on the prototype, George moved the hobby forward a giant step by producing bespoke detailing transfers produced for many kits, in various colour combinations to simplify this sometime arduous task.

Coupled with an ever increasing number of transfers for other vehicle details such as destinations, lining, adverts, badges, legal lettering etc, the production of a satisfactory well detailed model was much simplified.

Sunrise produce a comprehensive catalogue listing all transfers which now includes most of the items previously produced by the Model Bus Company, George acquiring this range in early last year.

The Sunrise catalogue is available online at www.sunrisetransfers.com or Model Bus Zone, though integration of the MBC and Sunrise ranges is currently taking place, leading soon to a new website and catalogue.

There is also an active Sunrise Models and Transfers page on Facebook with over 2,200 followers, which has news of new kits or transfers posted most days.

The fragmentation of bus modelling in recent years led to a new Facebook group, Model Bus Scotland, being established and George is currently an administrator.

Free to join, MBS has over 1,500 members, becoming a leading focus for model buses, not only in Scotland but in the wider model bus community.

With an odd exception, Sunrise has a friendly and helpful relationship with all the other kit producers, liaising to ensure that all bus modellers get the benefit of the widest possible choice of prototypes available without any wasteful duplication.

Sunrise regularly helps other kit manufacturers by producing transfers, designing printed glazing etc for their new kits, as required.

George welcomes comments and suggestions on both his kit and transfer



1 - The sheer volume and diversity of the Sunrise range had made choosing pictures to illustrate this article a difficult task. The first SUNRISE kit, which was released in August 2012, was for the Leyland TD2 with highbridge bodywork, a clear foretaste of the quality which was to follow



2 - The TD2 was soon followed by the 1955 Alexander single-deck, seen here in Alexander Fife, Midland and Northern liveries.





4 -Kit 21, the Albion Victor PH49 proved to be very popular.
This example is in Dunoon Motor Services livery.



5 - Another big selling kit was No 41A, the Alexander bodied Fleetline, shown here in Western SMT livery.



6 - The very distinctive Alexander bodied Leyland GNU bus, kit No 52A looking superb in Alexander livery



7 -The standard 1956-62 Alexander decker moved from T i N Y to Sunrise for continued production. This view shows examples in Edinburgh and Glasgow liveries, shows the accuracy of the kit and why it went on to be one of the best sellers in the SUNRISE range.



8 - The diversity to be found in the SUNRISE range is well illustrated here with AEC Q's, Western SMT Alexander motorway coach, two examples of popular Bedford VAS kit and an MCW Metrorider.



9 - Buses from Ireland have not been neglected. This is kit 54, the 1952 GNR(I) Gardner seen in CIE livery.



10 - A second kit transferred from T i N Y to speed up production which has been well received by modellers is for the TD5/TD7 Leyland highbridge bus



11 - Kit 80 for the Alexander pre-war Leyland Cheetah, seen here in Lawsons livery, was another kit which achieved large sales.



12 - SUNRISE produced the Bedford VAS bus in a number of variations to meet modellers needs. The picture shows a Western SMT example.



13- A recent arrival from SUNRISE has been kit 68, the Glasgow BUT/Burlingham single-deck trolleybus whose successful operation played their part in the approval for longer buses in the early 1960's.

With thanks to George Heaney at SUNRISE for his help with this article and for the supply of photographs.

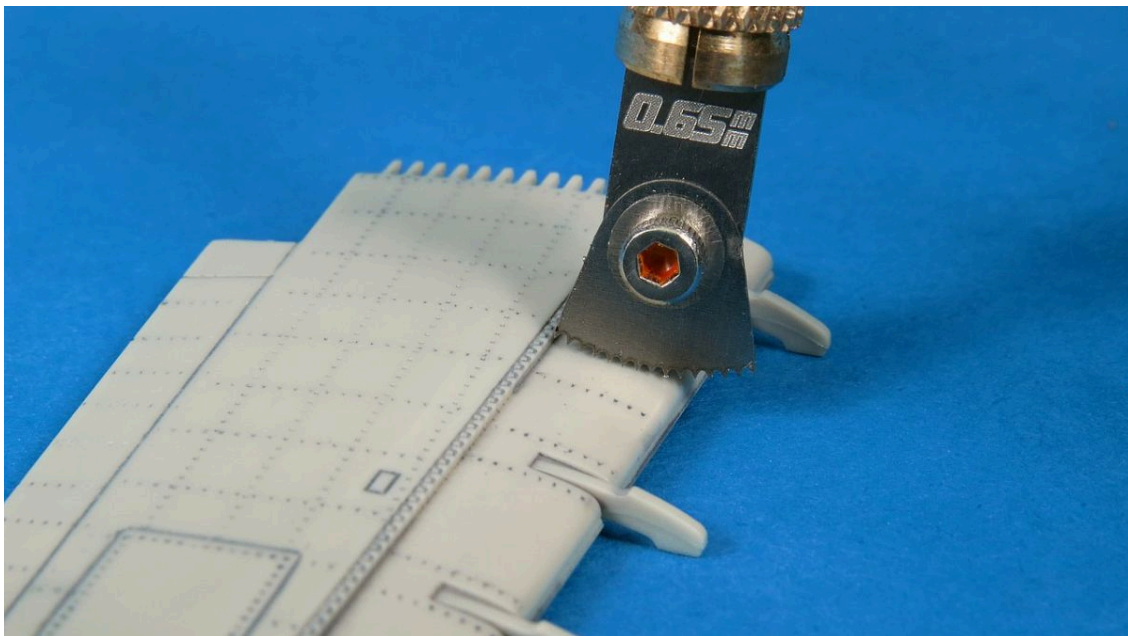
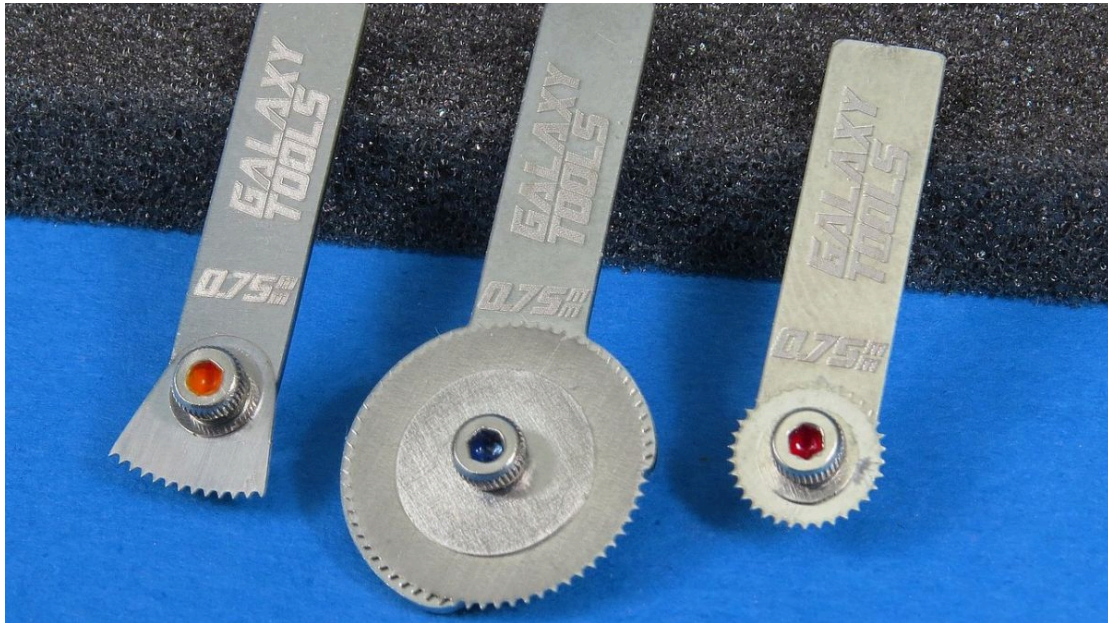


NEW TOOLS ROUNDUP

I am always looking for new tools to help with our hobby, and I think this one will be good for all you scratchbuilders who need that little extra detailing.

Last month I showed you the Rivet Maker from G Force Models.

This is [Galaxy Tools](#) offering



Galaxy Model has recently begun to expand their product range out beyond the excellent die-cut masking sets they have had in the market for several years now. A new series of hand tools are being marketed under the Galaxy Tools label and include a wide array of high quality modelling tools. In this hands-on review, I will be taking a closer look at their new range of riveting tools, designed specifically to add recessed rivet detail to a models surface...

lightly roll it over the surface to make the rivet indents. Most often used by aircraft modellers to reproduce flush rivet detail along panel lines and around the skin of the aircraft.

Galaxy produces wheels in six different teeth spacings. They range from the smallest spacing of 0.55mm thru to the largest of 1.50mm in 0.25mm increments. Rather than force you to buy all six in one set to get perhaps a couple that you really want, Galaxy has sensibly separated the six sizes into two sets. In addition, each set (of three wheels each) is available in two-wheel diameters (Standard and Mini)

[More Info](#)

TIPS

When I am applying transfers, I always add a couple of small drops of PVA Glue to the water, I find this gives a little extra adhesion to the surface. With it drying clear, I find there is no discolouring to the clear background of the transfer.

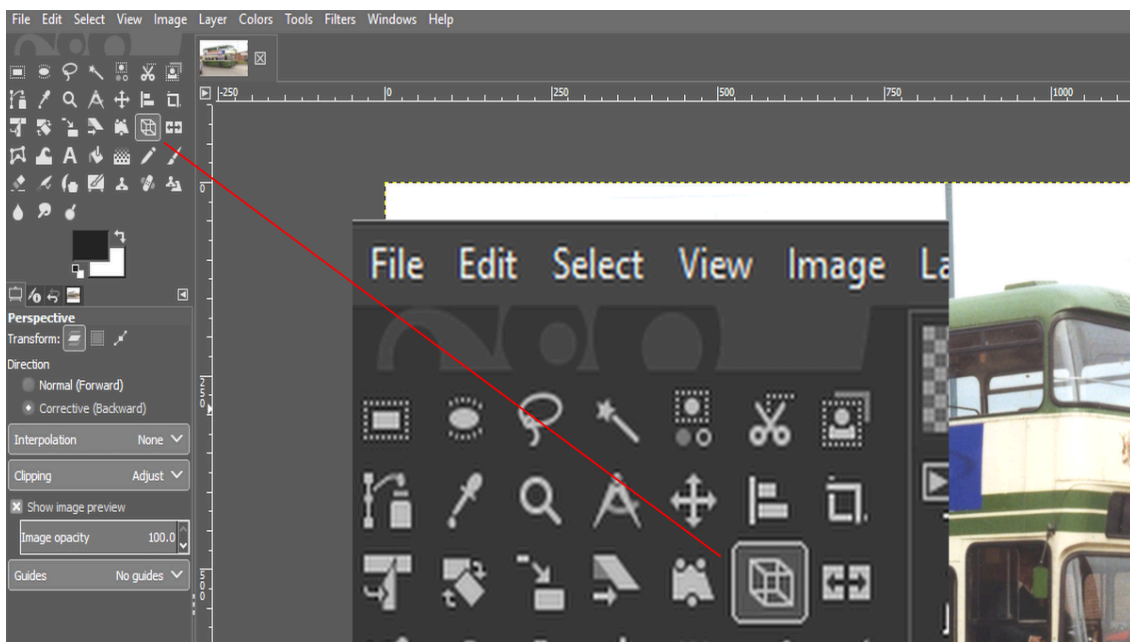


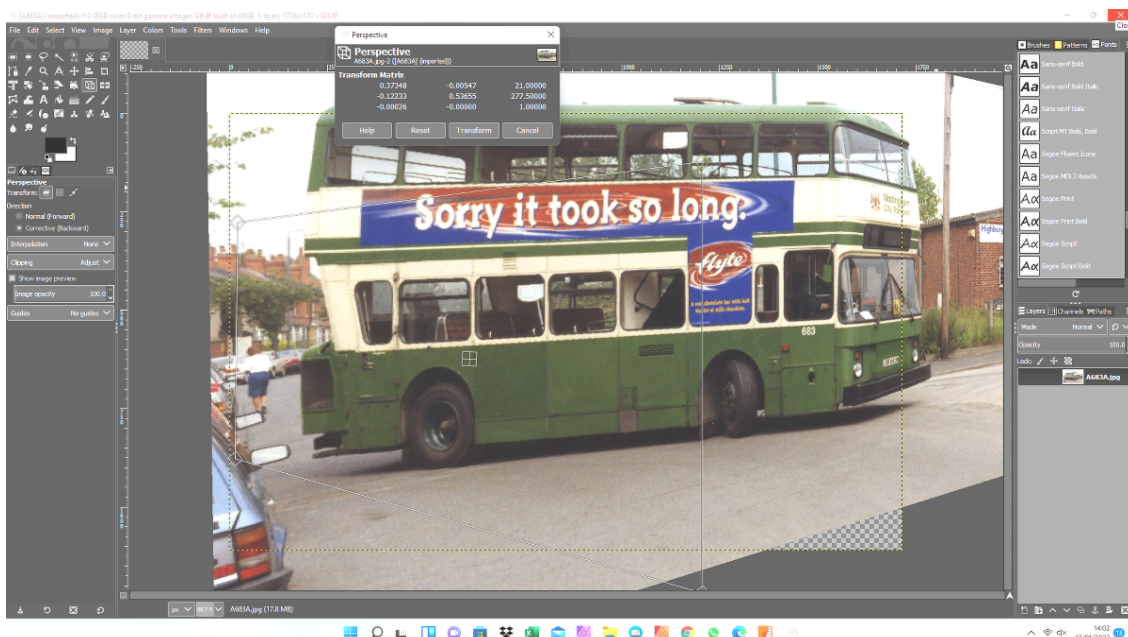
COPYING BUS ADVERTS

If you are like me, I like to recreate transfers as accurate as possible. Because at the end of the day, that's what adds that little extra to any finished model or kit.

I use GIMP which is a free software you can download. [CLICK HERE](#)
Import from your folder the image you want to copy and click on Perspective tool,

the image.





The Pencils Use In our Hobby.

There are all kinds of hobby related pencils that can be used in scale modelling, Water Colour, AK Weathering & Metallic Pencils.

But what about the pencil.

Because of its dark metallic colour its perfect for adding panel lines and colouring in engine vents.

Perhaps you want to show **wear & tear on edges** of Driver's cab door or emergency exits caused by the crew constantly rubbing up against or handling this area, a quick pass with a pencil can give a great effect.

Now there are of course lots of Powders & Pencils that work perfectly well for these things, but there are tonal variations that can be the key to creating realistic effects.

So why not add the pencil to your tool box & use it in conjunction with the others to vary the tone & add that bit of visual interest to your model.

As ever I hope you have found this helpful.

Cleaning Your Model Before Painting

Here is an important step I do with every build to make sure the paintwork has a good surface to adhere to. Obviously during the process of building we are constantly touching our model components, this can transfer grease from our hands onto the model. This grease can act as a kind of barrier between the plastic & the paint, making it easy for the paint to fall off or be pulled off during any masking we are doing.

There are 2 methods you can use to solve this, when the model is ready for paint, give it a wipe over & clean with Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA).

This works great for removing any residue left from our hands from the model & has the bonus of quickly evaporating from the surface leaving it totally clean.

You can pick IPA up relatively cheaply & as you are only using it to dampen a cloth or cotton buds it will last you absolutely ages. It's a good idea when cleaning to wear disposable gloves to stop you adding more marks from your hands!

The risk of not doing this simple step is paint lifting from the model, especially when removing masking tape. This can be infuriating at the best of times.

Also try this great product from [Zero Paints](#)

Key and Clean

Paint Preparation and Cleaning Solution
Part No: ZP-6002



Colour Matched, Airbrush Ready Paints for Model Makers
ZEROPAINTS
www.zero-paints.com



You can still register your interest in any of our kits by visiting our website

[Midland Bus Kits](#)



My modelling - Phil Lacey

My modelling like many back in the day started with repainting old Dinky toys and 50 years later the hobby that keeps giving carries on for me.

I built up a fleet of 30 or so vehicles in my “Lacey’s Luxury” Coaches in the 70s/80s but with a changing life in the 90s the fleet was pretty much sold off Similarly I started to build up a Barton fleet and again lack of space and time meant that this had a similar fate I had limited time for the next 20 years or so and my modelling was limited to a small number of 1/50 scale Barton’s, either as scratch builds or Corgi diecasts.

It was probably 5 years or so ago that I ventured into what for me was the new world of resin kits and finally I got my modelling mojo back again It was apparent that things had moved on significantly in the modelling world and the days of putting plenty of paint on a white metal kit and “paint your own” graphics was a thing of the past and I have needed many attempts to try and adjust. Also social media and digital photography have made a huge change to our hobby whilst the use of the technology is something we could have only dreamt about when I started off all those years.

My collection is mainly based on the East Midlands. The only representative of the LL coaches fleet still owned is my very first scratchbuild, a MetroScania which is just about recognisable along with my latest, a 1/50 scale AEC added to the Barton fleet in 1921.

A variety of white metal kits that were built in the 70s/80s

A couple of my 1/76 scratchbuilds added in the late 80s, and ex-Leicester PD1 and

Some of my early scratchbuilds in 1/50 657 a Barton BTS1 with Barton Viewmaster bodywork 336 a 1939 Leyland Lion with Duple coach in wartime guise work fitted with roof mounted gasbag 850 and 465 two of Barton's most iconic double deckers

1192 a 1971 Plaxton Elite II that was the first new Leyland in the fleet for 16 years

And more recent additions in the same scale 178/181 are a pair of 1934 Leyland Lions, with Duple and Brush coach work 996/1002 a pair of my fleet favourites, a Harrington Legionnaire and Grenadier that I would have travelled on many times 856/936 A larger White Lady and Harrington Cavalier.

The internet has enabled many older kits to be sourced and represent some of the other fleets that operated in the East Midlands and here are a selection Midland General, Blue Bus, Derby Corporation, South Notts and Barton are long gone whilst Hulleys and Nottingham continue under new ownership and of course the Trent fleet is part of the Wellglade empire.

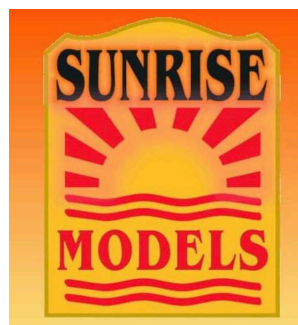
Finally we are back to 1/50 scale for two photos, the first showing products of Midland Red in the form of bodyshells that have been modified and fitted out The second photo has the Marsden Y Type in the livery that these wore when new, and the Optare Excel was my last 90s scratchbuild and would ideally benefit from computer graphics when I'm feeling brave! I hope you've enjoyed a selection of my models.







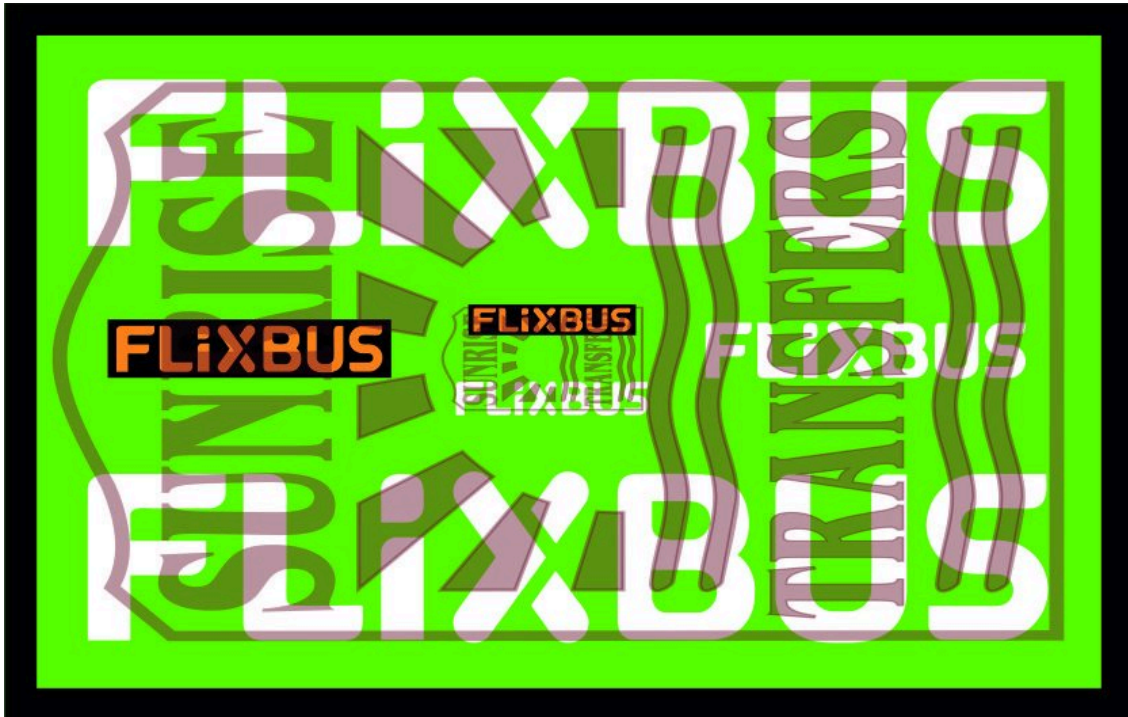


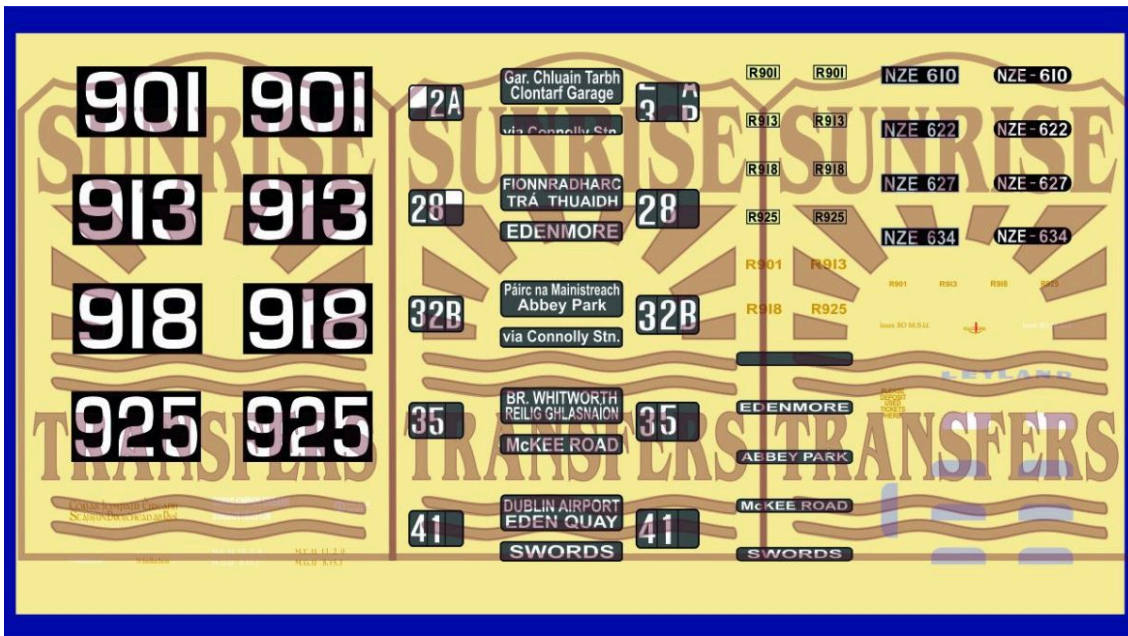
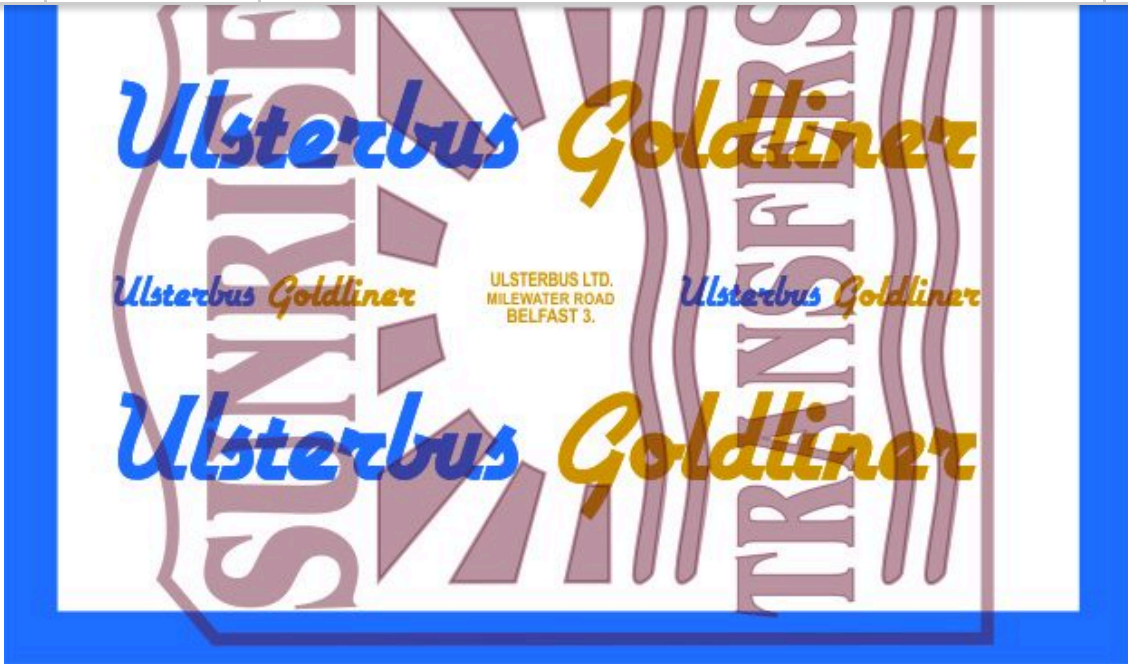




Add that extra little detail

NEW TRANSFERS - Flixbus set, current-style Stagecoach fleetname sets for local and distance liveries, Ulsterbus Express and Ulsterbus Goldliner sets.
Also transfer sets for Jim Poots CIE Leyland PD3A 'R900' and Ulsterbus Express N-type Leyland Tiger kits.



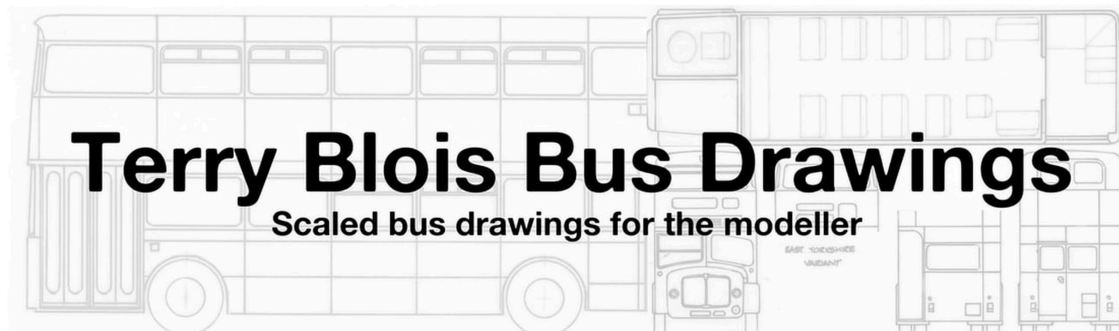


Cumoangerraff! The third in the series of T-shape adverts for The Glaswegian newspaper that appeared on Glasgow buses in the 1980s and 1990s - were there any others?

This new 1/76th scale, screen printed waterslide transfer should be available from Sunrise in about a couple of weeks - the other two are already available at £1 25p each.



Sunrise Catalogue



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 and postage is £2 per order.

Payment options are cheques 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



PARAGON KITS

PARAGONKITS

February 2022 update and news

Model bus kits, accessories and conversion parts in 1:76 scale

[Bus Kits \(paragonkits.com\)](http://paragonkits.com)

The latest two new kits will be 'launched' at the 43rd Model Bus Extravaganza at Stafford on 19th February. This what was previously at Crewe and is a public event with the ludicrously low admission price of £2.00! 10.00 to 15.30

Blessed William Howard School, Rowley Avenue, ST17 9AB:

PK 33 Yeates Fiesta FE44 Bedford SB, as Delaine, Whippet etc



It is possible that the re-issue of Ex TrystCo kit EK 2 will also be available for those who have pre-ordered it.



Recent enquiries have suggested there may be a demand for Ex Lancer Models kit L19 Plaxton Panther Volvo B12M to be re-run, probably as a very small run.

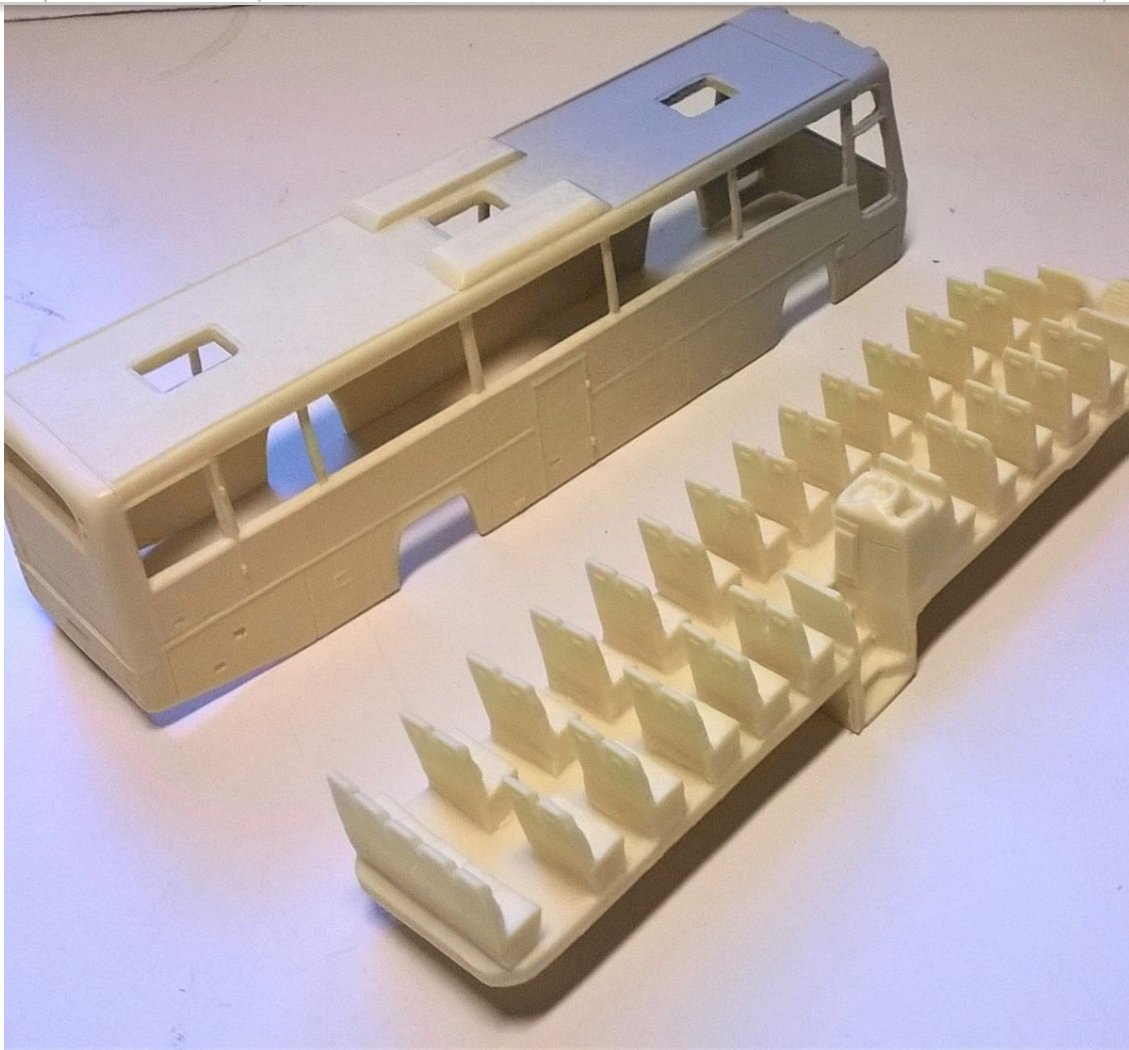
This is a very old kit of course. All enquiries and reservations to

info@paragonkits.com

or agoodwin206@mail.com please.







PK 77 Northern Counties Volvo B6





Recent subscribers may be unaware of the range of etched detailing frets produced, most of which are adaptable to other models. Some of these are illustrated here:

PD 01, Midland Red S17 [14.25 mm vents] but fits all

post war BMMO built buses and many others including EFE PDR Atlantean.

PD 02, EFE Bristol VRT [16 mm vents]. Also suitable for others inc. long Leyland Nationals!

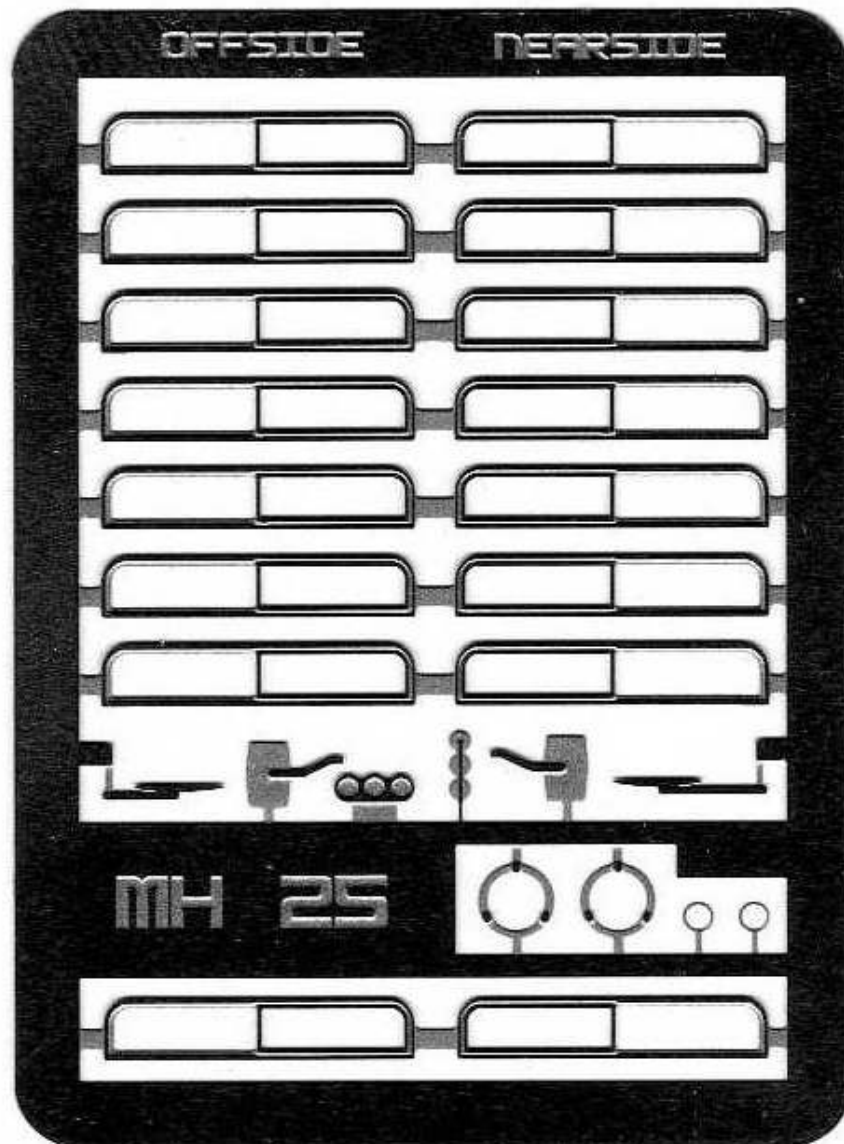
PD 03, EFE MCW Orion [10.5 mm vents].

PD 04, EFE BET 36' single deckers [18 mm vents].

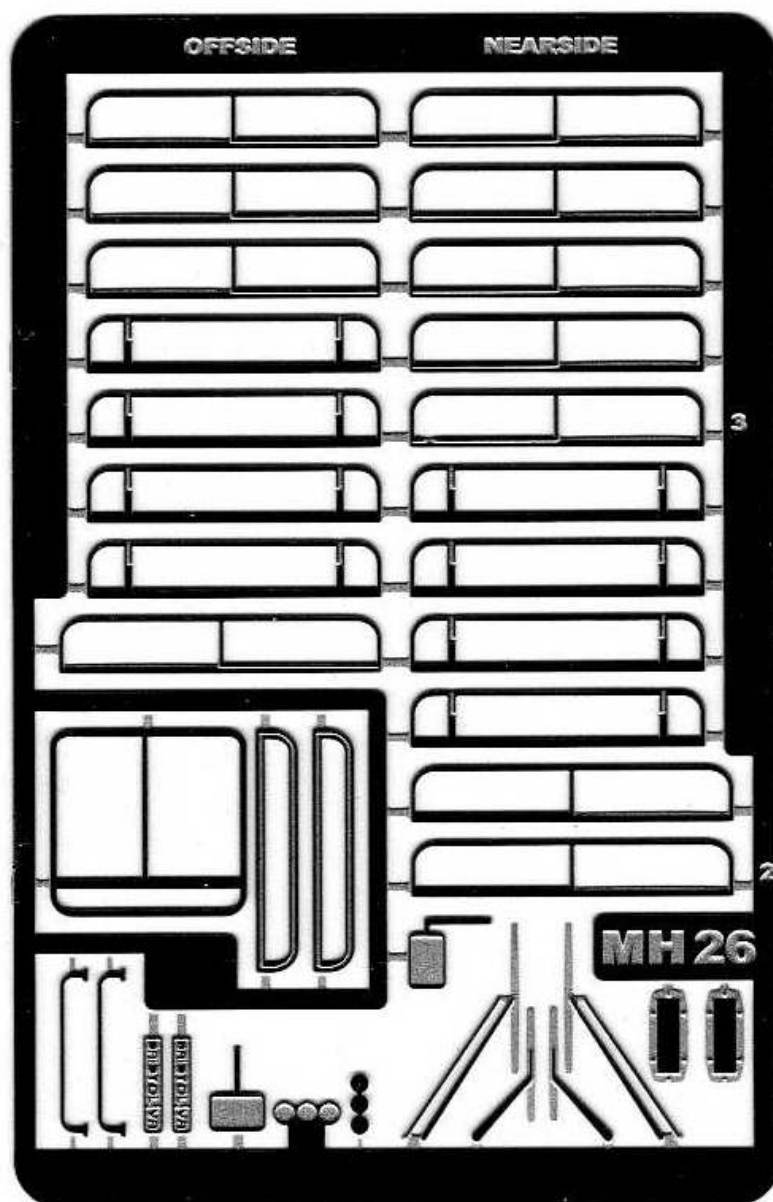
PD 12, Paragon WMPTE "Standard" Fleetline [18 mm hoppers], but parts also suitable for other things.

PD 13 Duple Dominant bus [22 mm vents], sliders and cab windows only

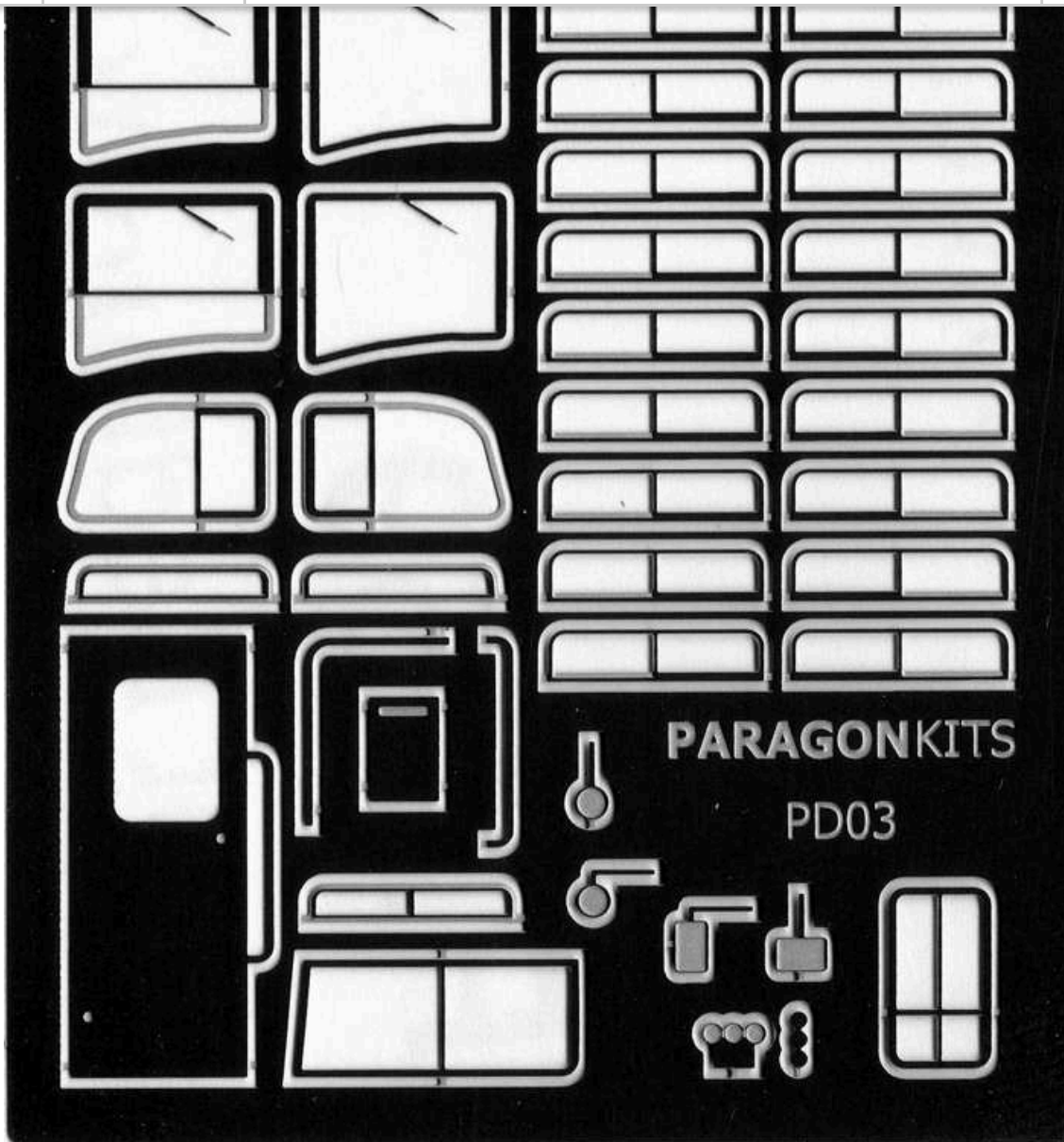
PD 01, Midland Red S17



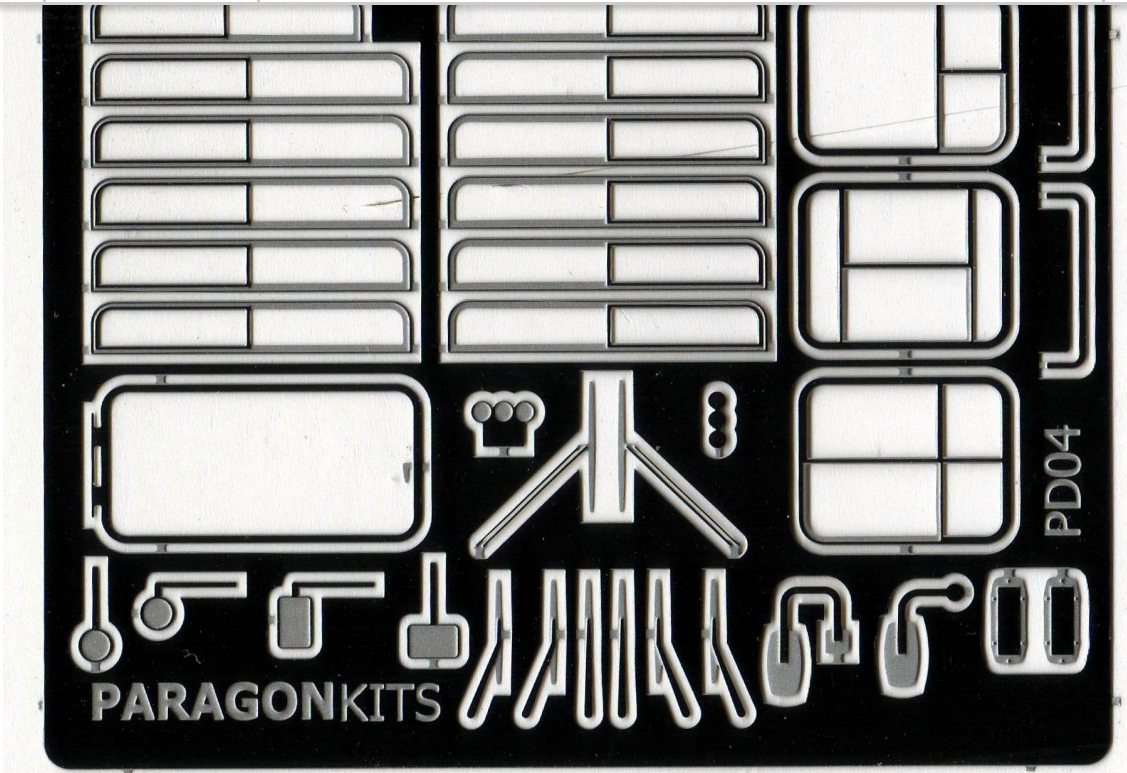
PD 02, EFE Bristol VRT



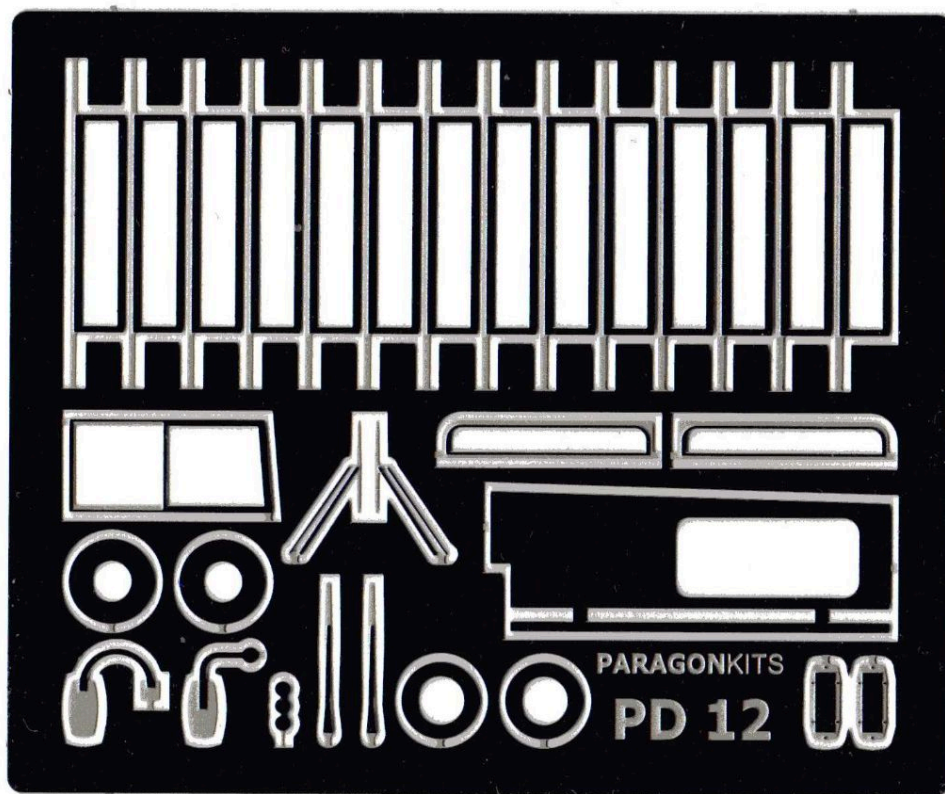
PD 03, EFE MCW Orion



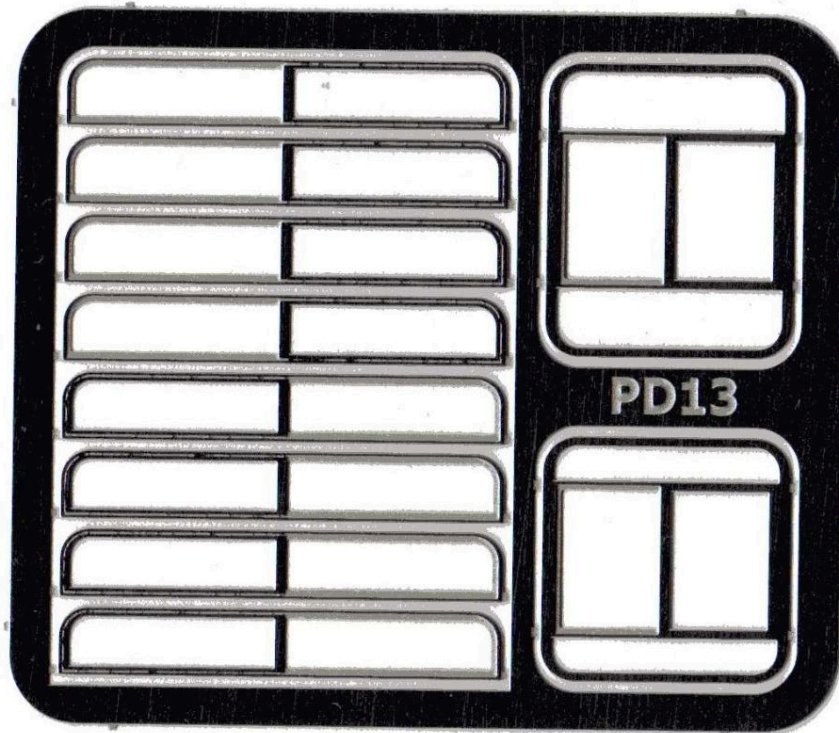
PD 04, EFE BET 36' single deckers



PD 12, Paragon WMPTE "Standard" Fleetline



PD 13 Duple Dominant bus



All enquiries and reservations to info@paragonkits.com or agoodwin206@mail.com please.

MARK HUGHES MODELS

[Bus and Coach Parts](#)

O, OO & N ACCESSORIES



free shipping



Exclusive high quality products

Affordable, accurate and varied range

Made with passion

www.3dprintingcorner.co.uk

info@3dprintingcorner.co.uk

 3Dprintingcorner

 3d_printing_corner





**Subscribe to the Model Bus Scotland Facebook Group for free
and join 1,300 members who share an interest in bus & coach models**

Volvo Ailsa B55 Alexander AV

To register your interest in our kit please email us at modelbusscotland@gmail.com

Alexander AV Bodied Volvo Ailsa B55-10

A MODEL BUS SCOTLAND RELEASE
1:76 SCALE RESIN KIT MADE IN THE UK

The model is based on the Volvo Ailsa
B55 with Alexander AV style bodywork
Developed exclusively for GreaterGlasgow PTE
with the rounded roof domes similar to
the AL style used for the large number of Atlanteans
used in the city.

This was to assist in the easy exchange of parts
that could be used across the fleet.

A total of 15 were delivered new in December 1975
and all operated in the city their entire
days with exception of 1 or 2 which
made their way into service with Black
Prince in England.

A Pre Order list was previously taken for this release and enough kits are being produced to supply the demand with very few spares.

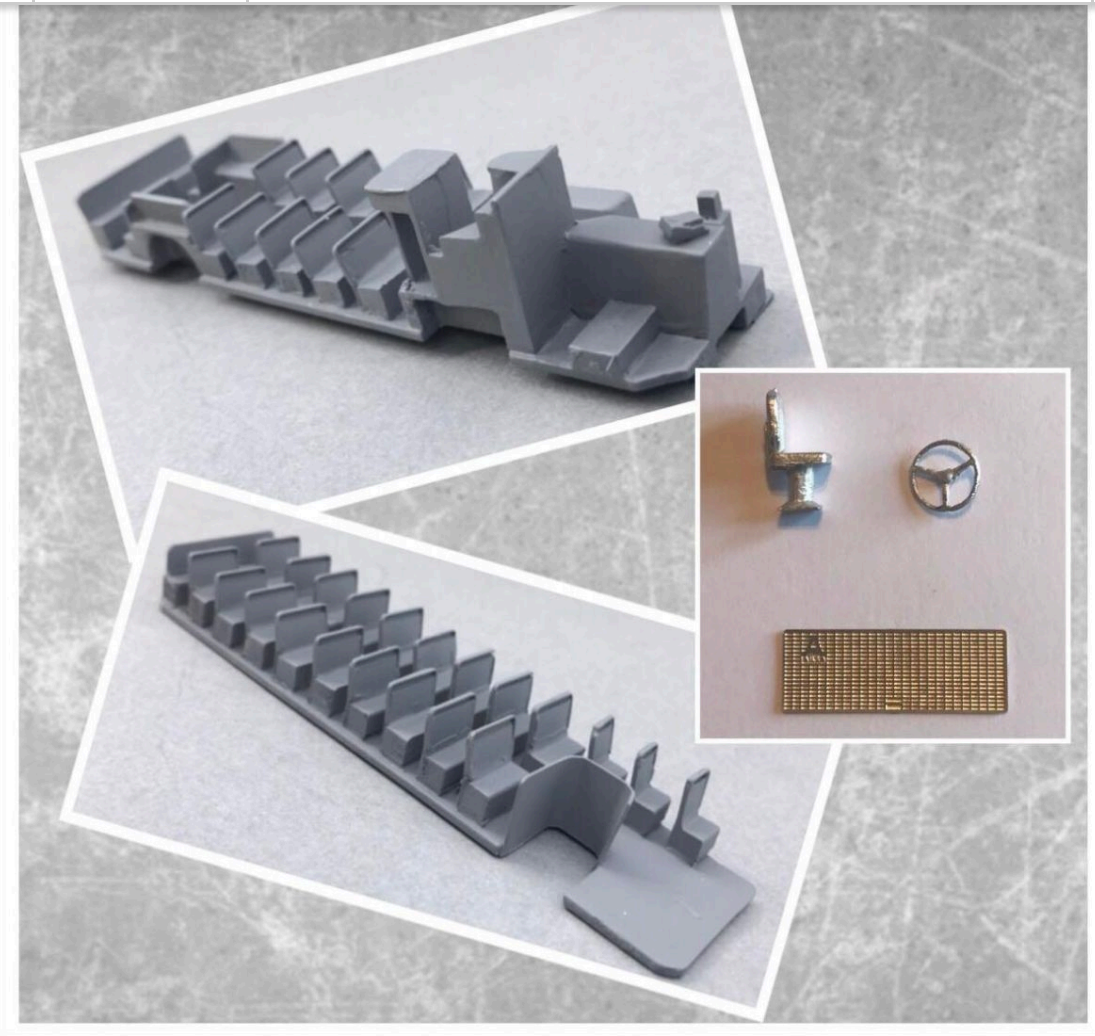
Kits are due for delivery in May 2022. A second run is already planned for later in the year. Priced at £49 any enquiries should be directed to Stephencarlin75@yahoo.com





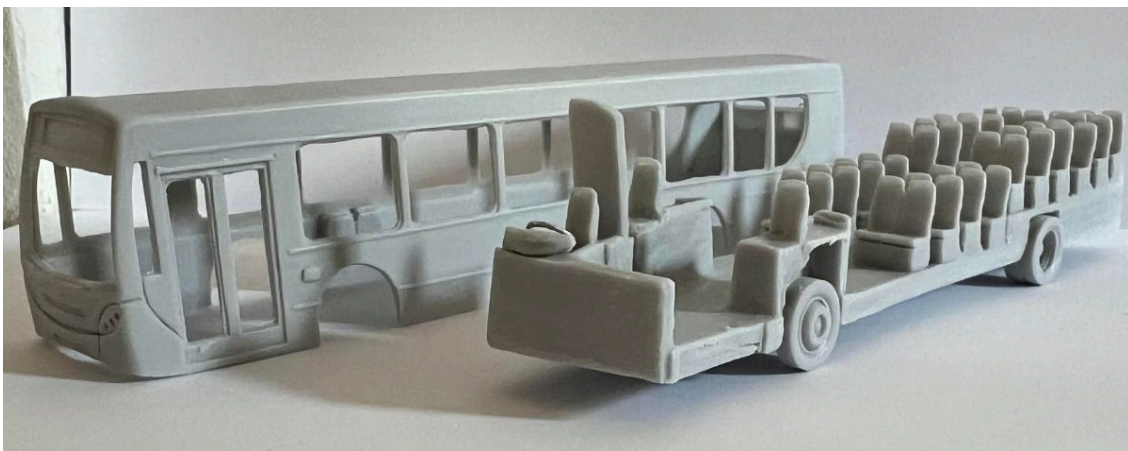
INCLUDES
TRANSFERS
PRODUCED
BY
SUNRISE





Model Bus Scotland MBS kit 004 enviro 300 MAN sample.
have received the samples for the MAN 300 kit.
Kit will cost £45 plus £4.95 post
They are looking to have the kit out for summer
Pre orders are available. modelbusscotland@gmail.com





Copyright © MIDLAND BUS KITS 2022

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Midland Bus Kits · 49 Monyash Way · Belper, Derbyshire DE56 1FW · United Kingdom

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

