



TELFORD AND IRONBRIDGE MECCANO SOCIETY

AUGUST 2009 MODEL REPORT

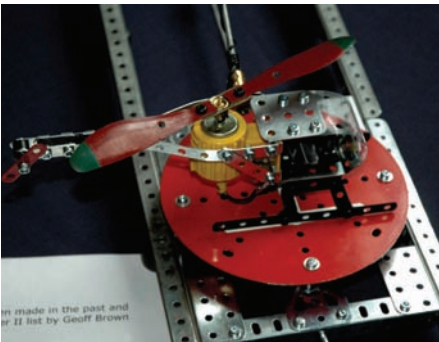
By John Evans

The first Saturday in August is a new date for TIMS. In the event, some 50 members turned up with 29 of them showing models.

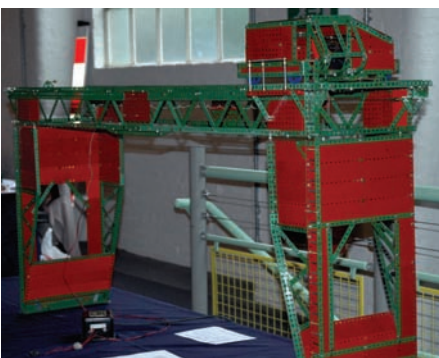
Starting with **Chris Shute** and his Meccano Model Railway. All movements automated; always a crowd pleaser.



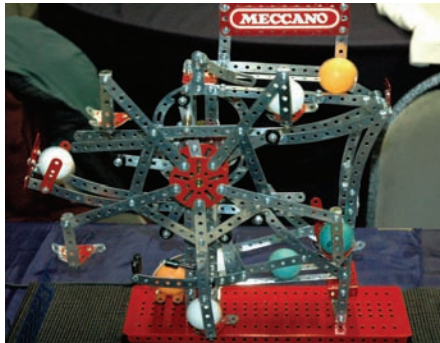
Ralph and Sue Laughton have been building a pylon flying helicopter. They were still learning the controls on Saturday!



Set 10 model no 10-10 was the subject that **Tony Wakefield** chose. The Gantry Crane is built in 3 sections for transport. Push button operation showed the hoist being lifted or lowered depending on the direction of travel of the cab.



Max Morris has adapted a Chris Shute design ball roller. Originally designed from the parts in a Ferris Wheel Set, the roller now has 5 arms based on an Erector 10 hole Face Plate. This makes it a "busy" model. Max also showed 2 cranes using his own blue colour schemes for the parts.



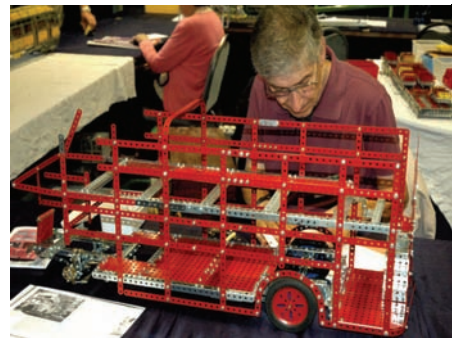
The Fairey Rotodyne was **Tony Homden's** latest model. The model now sits on a counterbalanced boom so giving the illusion of flight. Model shows the movements of the original and since the boom is also mounted on a roller bearing it can fly forwards (and backwards!). Pictures don't always do justice to models.



Paul Hubbard was busy adding another carriage to his Diesel Passenger Train.



As usual, **David Lacy** was building a bus. This time it is a Double Decker, the Midland Red D9 from 1959

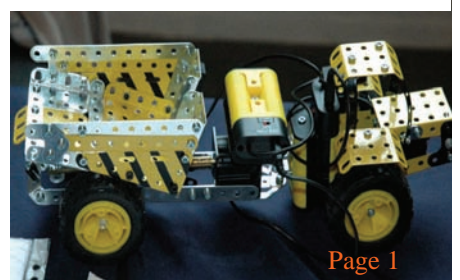


He also showed a Leyland Tiger Coach, this time on its side to show the underside.

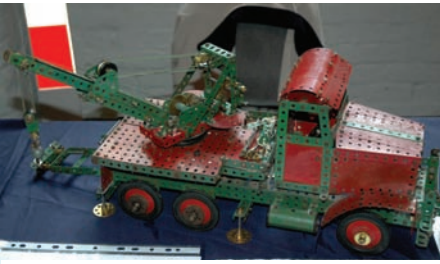
Roger Burton showed a Ferris Wheel which may have been inspired by the London Eye. A neat feature was the gondolas cantilevered off the rim of the wheel. Roger also showed his Lotus Concept Ice Vehicle. Thirdly he displayed an Army Truck which is built in anticipation of grandsons taking an interest in Meccano.



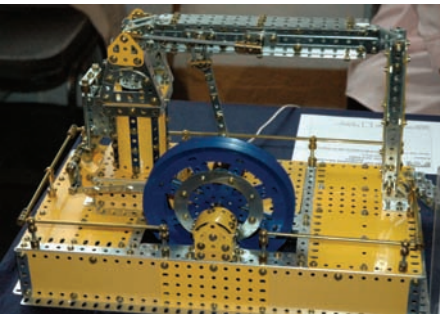
An articulated dump truck from the new two motor Infra Red Control set was **John Evans'** subject.



A Recovery truck on Scammell chassis was modelled by **John Castledine**. Built from photographs it was modelled in Red and green

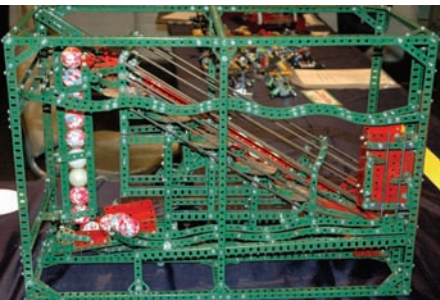


A Grasshopper Beam Engine was show by **Colin Bull** as a tribute to the late Bob Ford.



Colin also showed a range of miniature aircraft (I particularly liked the Chinooks) and various motorway plant.

Michael Fallows recently bought the late Alan Partridge Ball roller so it was on display, not yet working perfectly. The model has been published in CQ.



Michael also showed 2 Meccanographs and a Wool Balling Machine.

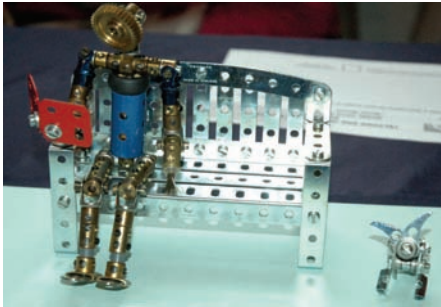
Next came **Keith Way** with a lifting beam bridge, model no 7 – 15 from the manuals. This of course is for the BRIDGES Project for Mecconuity 2010



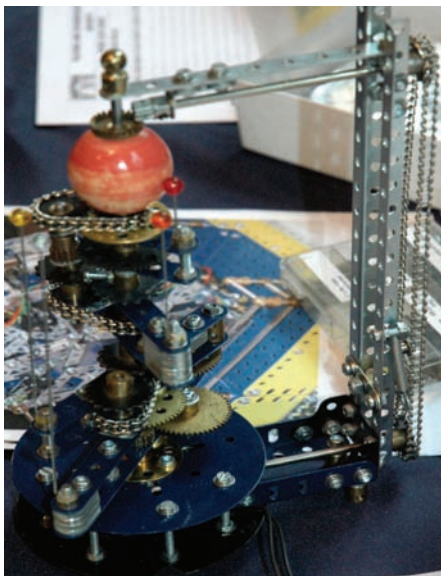
Keith also showed the Automatic Racers from the 1920s model 5.24 but in modern colours and of course motorised.

Janet Way also showed a range of small models.

“What shall I build next” must be a common cry amongst Meccano enthusiasts! **Ken Senar** built a model illustrating this frustration. It shows a Meccano Man reading CQ while sitting on a Bench. He is accompanied by his pet dog.



John Armstrong has built a palm sized Orrery, a Jovilabe.

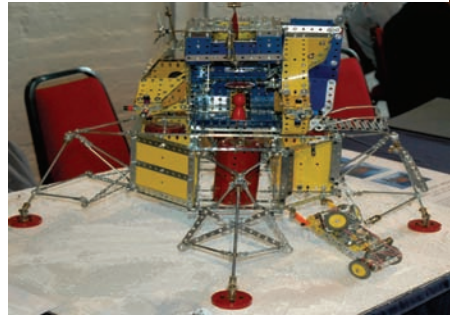


Pete Pyefinch builds big trucks. This meeting was no different! His subject was an 8 X 8 Airfield Crash Tender.



Rumour has it that Pete has recently sold the Crash Tender to an overseas buyer for a considerable sum!

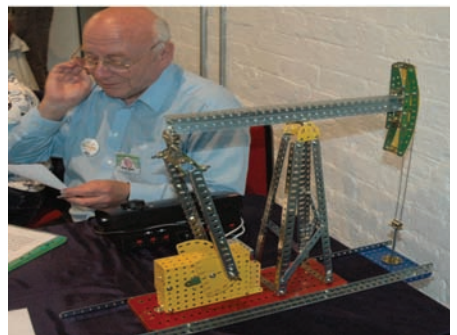
It is 40 years since Man landed on the Moon. **Hugh Nicolson's** model of the ascent and descent stages of the lunar module was therefore very timely. It incorporates a simplified version of the Lunar Rover in the partly deployed mode.



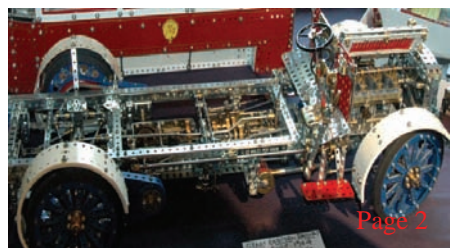
A Sopwith Camel biplane was **Dennis Backler's** model. It features Dennis' improvements on one featured in a CQ article.



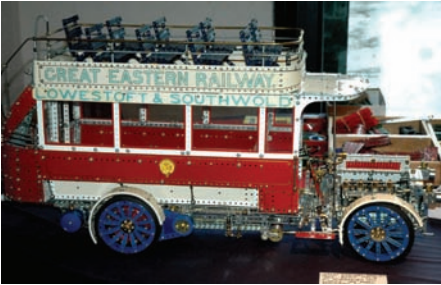
Bruce Gilson showed his Nodding Donkey which is used in oilfields to pump oil to the surface.



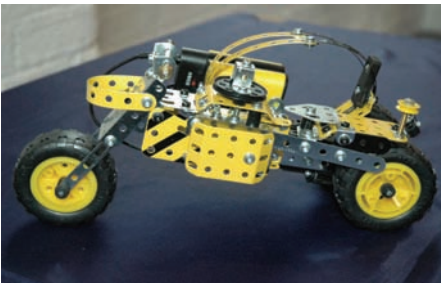
We all missed **Dave Taylor's** well stocked stall, but as compensation he showed his 1904 GER Omnibus. This very early motor bus was built in house by the Great Eastern Railway. Original drawings and photographs were used extensively in building the omnibus.



This is a well known model which has featured on the CQ18 cover. The model incorporates all the working features of the original. The chassis has steering, suspension, braking systems, 4 speed and Reverse gearbox, chain drive, radius arm.



John and Joyce Sleaford showed a range of models, including this



Motor Bike from Set 8541 (incorporating a John Sleaford modification), a Hindle Smart Electric Articulated lorry as well as a range of small models.

Peter Sleaford showed an interactive Meccanograph as well as a radio controlled from Set 8701, 4 Robots from the Tins, Infra Red Control controlled lorry in Red.

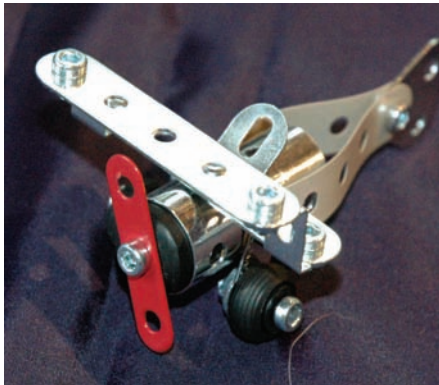


Stephanie Sleaford had 3 Crazy Inventors Sets, a Car, Flying Machine and Walking Boat. She also showed an Argos VW Beetle with surfboard.

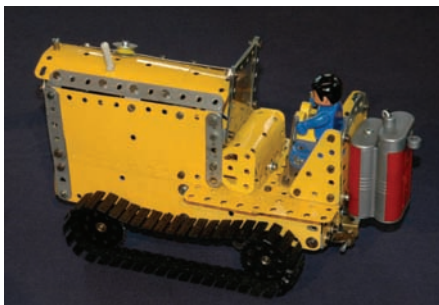
Tony Evanson showed a Coles Crane (MP 128 by Tony James), a Konkoly T-form Meccanograph, a 4 speed & reverse gearbox and a Mini Iron bridge (see the TIMS Bridges project).



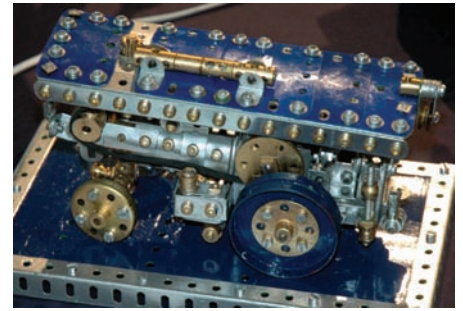
Holly Evanson showed this lovely micro-kit Biplane



Bill Gardiner showed a range of 6 models. A 1920s Gas Engine, Bagatelle Table, a small crane from Motion System 7510, a 10 Set Robot man, a Baltic Tank 4-6-4 loco built to a scale of 1" to 1ft and Caterpillar Tractor.



Bob Chater showed 4 models, a Scmidt Offset Coupling, a freelance Beam Engine, a single cylinder Marine Engine and a small Showman's Traction Engine. This model won the Meccano Club Cup in 1970 and was featured on a Meccano Magazine Cover (top right).



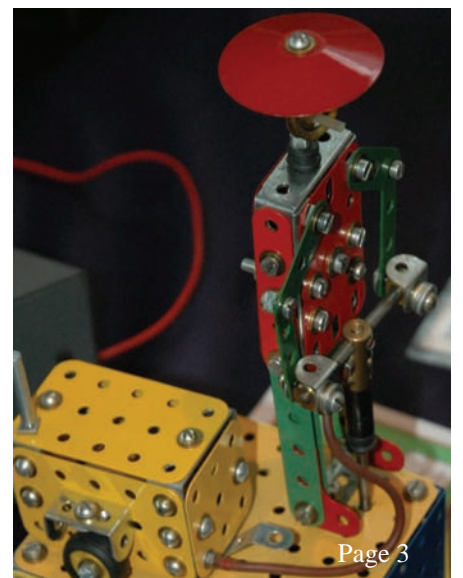
A model from a Marklin leaflet was **John Palmer's** subject. Built in Red and Green.

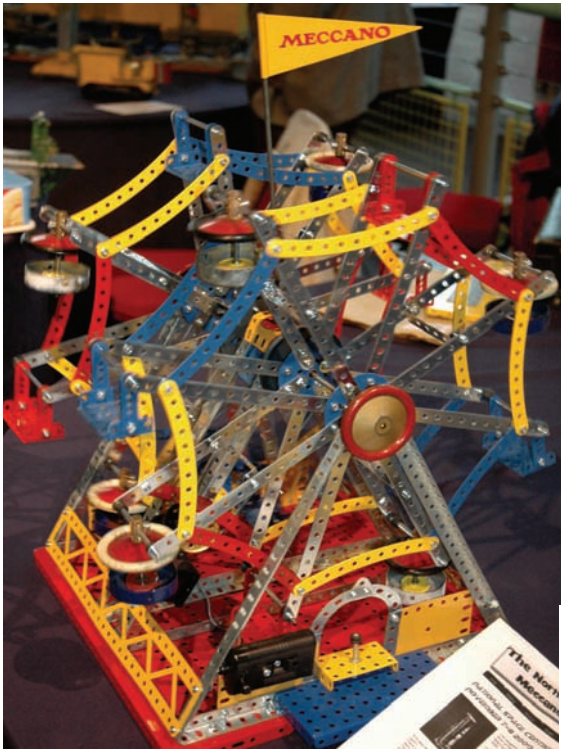


Terry Bullingham is building a Blocksetting Crane. He showed us the boom in Stainless Steel girders. He spent much of the day quizzing members on the correct design of "hook" for the blocks.

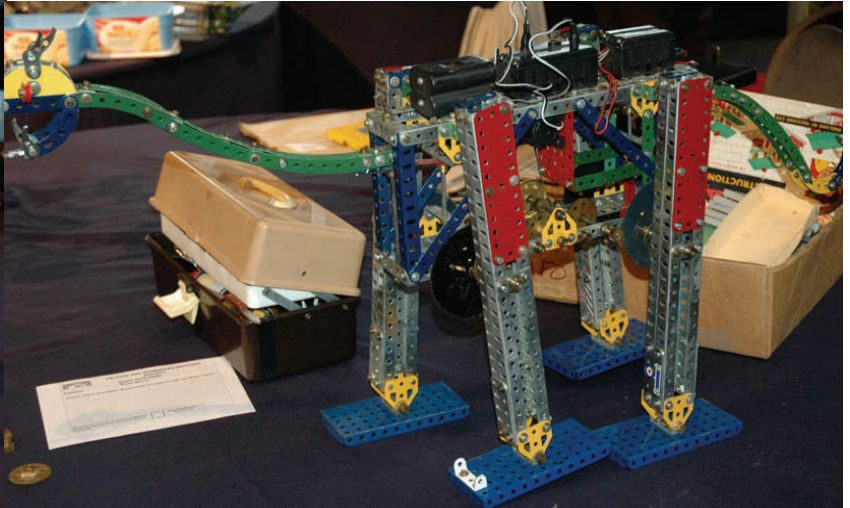


The Nightingales, Les, Anne and Les Jnr. had a whole table full. They keep on modifying the Konkoly based Meccanograph. There were 3 "puppets", Tom Thumb, a Marionette from a CQ article by Bernard Perrier; Weight Lifter also published in CQ. Third was a Chinese Road Driller. Last came Modelplan 164, a Ffestiniog Narrow Gauge Double Fairlie loco.





Geoff Brown was busy repairing motors during much of the meeting. His double Ferris Wheel, left, kept going all day.



The Meccanosaurus above was featured in CQ 18 and has been modelled by **Rob Miller**. It is now controlled by the Infra Red system.

Chairman's Notes

Now that our summer meeting is held in August, attendance is much better. In the past, when we used to meet in June, many Meccano folk chose to wait for Skegness instead. However, this time we saw plenty of fresh ideas, and some still developing. After Meccanuity and Skegness, our brief summer may get filled with holidays and gardening, but soon the colder darker evenings return and its time to get modelling!

If you're still wondering what to tackle next, (like Ken Senar's melancholy Meccanoman!) why not enjoy a few hours distraction in our 2010 Meccanuity Challenge? Our quest is to devise a long-jumping flea from Meccano parts. The last newsletter shows the rules in full, but in the meantime, here are a few head-scratching ideas....

See you on November 14th!

Chris Shute

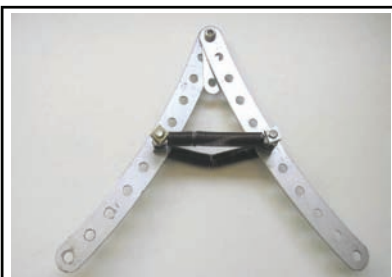


Some methods of Meccano spring-propulsion, but there are others: Spring Cord, modern sprung steel strips, twisted string, for example.

An experimental launch pad made from standard parts: Two 1 1/2" x 1/2" Double Angle Strips are mounted adjacently with their lugs spaced enough to accept the central dangler strip from the flea. The release pin is a 2" rod retained by a Large Fork Piece, upon which a 2 1/2" Sprung Strip will lightly bear. Old red plates on the flanged box lid protect the paintwork from flea-leg scratches during take-off. The lid is inclined at 30°. Wear goggles and remove pets, china etc...!



This 17th Century engraving of a flea was the work of Robert Hooke, who also studied microscopes, clock escapements and springs!!



The simplest design. A 1 1/2" Narrow Strip attaches to the launcher



'Camping Stool' flea with Tension Springs stretched between Screwed Rods.

Ultra-lightweight Elektrikit legs, extended by wooden 'feet' from the Crazy Inventor set (Dave Taylor has these parts, very cheap!). Propulsion comes from the miniature clockwork motor, part no. 330, which may be wound up while attached to the launch pad.



