

Bulleid Q1

by Mark Palmer

Summary

The Bulleid Q1 locomotive is an obvious choice (to me anyway) for a LEGO train MOC, angular, uncomplicated, and as an added bonus a little bit unusual that stands out among all the pretty locomotives. The Q1 was designed during WWII as an austerity design and as such dispensed with any unnecessary metal work, e.g. running boards. It was in use, in the Southern Region (UK), between 1942 & 1966 primarily for goods work.

Inspiration

Construction of the MOC was prompted by the release of the Hornby model some years ago and some associated articles in Model Rail magazine. Hornby advertisements featured a large side view picture of the model which was ideal for taking inspiration from. Further research on the internet found some additional pictures showing further details, particularly of the tender.

Design process

My design style tends to be freestyle with occasional sketches and lots of trial building. For the Q1 the initial boiler shape was trial built and also built in LDraw. Rough sketches were made based on the Hornby side view photographs to work out proportions relative to the BBB wheels. Subsequently the cab and front buffer area were initially designed using LDraw. For the chassis lots of trial building was used until a satisfactory design was found. Rummaging through a box of parts often leads to the discovery of techniques and unusual uses of parts, e.g. the



tender pivot design. As an aside this does make me wonder if an overly sorted LEGO collection could actually stifle creativity.

Locomotive

As discussed above, the boiler was designed first as this gives the model its defining shape. The reducing widths of the boiler being six then five and finally four studs wide. Washout plugs in the main boiler area are "1x2 technic brick with 1 hole" with a "1x1 round" in the back. The boiler is built around a 'beam' 2x12, made from technic bricks. The middle section of the boiler, five wide, is offset by half a stud by using 1x3 plates in the hollow studs of the technic beams. Initially, the front section,

continued on page 3

Also in this issue ...

HMS Edinburgh

by Ed Diment

Page 5



Attention to detail on a large scale - HMS Edinburgh is a truly amazing model and is revealed in our second photo montage article.

Merrist Wood 2007

by David Tabner

Page 7



Show report for Merrist Wood 2007 - another success story for AFOLs displaying at a general public event.

Member Profile

Ed Diment

Page 4



Has Ed missed his true calling?

“The Association Matters”

Club News

Chairman's Report

Simon Bennett (chairman@brickish.org)

Hello everyone. Hopefully you have now spotted your new membership card which was sent along with this Brick Issue. We have issued these because we now have a fabulous offer from two of the three LEGO Brand Stores - Milton Keynes and Bluewater. If you show your BA membership card you will receive 10% off! Hopefully, the Brighton store will offer the same deal in the future. It's only a pity that this has come after the more northerly stores closed down.

In other Brand Store news we now have a Window into the Community in the Brighton store which Huw Millington is co-ordinating. Take a look on the website for the models that are on display and if you wish,

please have a go at making something for one of the windows. Get in touch with Huw, or Tim or Martin if you have anything to show.

For those of you who don't regularly surf the web for LEGO stuff I thought I would bring to your attention the recently released issue 8 of Brick Journal, a very high quality and extensive downloadable AFOL newsletter which is edited by Joe Meno and for which Melody Krutzfeldt is European Bureau Editor. This issue has an interview with Guy Bagley and a feature on Ed Diment's HMS Edinburgh. You can find it from the links in this post on Lugnet: <http://news.lugnet.com/publish/brickjournal/?n=170>

In this issue there are the usual reports on recent events, I hope those of you who came along enjoyed yourselves and those who haven't yet, come along to one of the upcoming events. Martin is about to do something clever which will mean that when a news article is placed on the website you will get a copy by email so you'll get notice of events etc. even if you don't regularly log on. I hope this, along with the 10% offer I mentioned, will be of benefit to those of you who haven't yet been along to any events or got into discussions on the website.

Right - now to sort the stuff I bought at the Hatfield Fest.

Simon

Editor's Comments

William Howard (newsletter@brickish.org)

With many fests and shows coming in the summer months it's going to be a busy, but fun, time for us all. I hope that some of you will find the time (and inclination) to write articles for the next Brick Issue - not just show reports but also details of the models displayed, their construction techniques and what inspired you to build the model in the first place.

Play On

BI-13: 7 November

BI-13 scheduled to be posted to members. Copy deadline is 1st October. Any and all content appreciated.

Membership

The annual subscription is £8. For resident UK members renewing for two years the rate is £14. Subscriptions fall due on the first day of the original joining month.

Make cheques payable to 'The Brickish Association' and send to Jon Reynolds, The Brickish Association, 29 Paulden Road, Lostock Grlam, Northwich, CW9 7PQ

You must be at least sixteen years of age to join.

Administration of all members' address details is now performed centrally by members themselves using the on-line facility within 'My Profile' on the web site. If you have not verified your personal details recently, please check they are still correct as from now on, all copies of the Brick Issue and other mail correspondence will only be posted to the addresses held in the online database.

Events

Star Wars Celebration, London: 13-15 July

LEGO have a stand at the Celebration event and we have been invited to display Mos LEGO. Awaiting details of other fan area stands to display additional models.

LEGO Trains, St Andrews: 18-19 August

Come along and watch, help or show your trains/buildings etc.

LEGO Club Weekend, LLW: 15-16 September

LEGOLAND Windsor is holding a special day for the LEGO Club members. We will be showcasing some models to illustrate how much you can do with LEGO.

LEGO Trains, Cupar: 22-23 September

This year is their 30th anniversary - and David hopes to have LEGO trains from 1977. Come along and watch, help or show your trains/buildings etc.

Fan Weekend, Skærbæk: 28-30 September

International LEGO fan weekend in Skærbæk (Denmark).

5th Great Western LEGO Train Show, Swindon: 6-7 October

This year, we expect the display to be bigger and better, with more activities for all the family to enjoy and participate in.

Sci-Fi Weekend, NSC Leicester: 3-4 November

The Brickish Association returns to the National Space Centre, Leicester. Exhibit themes to be confirmed.

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by Mark Palmer

continued from page 1

four wide, had straight sides built over a longer 'beam'. After constructive criticism this was changed to a SNOT design with downward facing 1x4 quarter rounds and the assembly fixed to the rest of the boiler using technic pins.

The build was started before BBB blind wheels were available and six BBB big driver wheels were purchased. Anyway using blind wheels is cheating! Given the curves of LEGO track one set of wheels has to pivot from the rest, a 2-4-0 format was determined. The basic chassis is four studs wide using technic 1x10 bricks. The front bogie, for want of a better description, is linked to the main chassis by means of a parallelogram arrangement arrived at after much experimentation. Movement needs to be limited to the lateral (horizontal) plane, and rotation of the front bogie needs to be minimised.



As the main boiler is six studs wide, the cab needs to be seven studs wide. Actual construction of the cab was straightforward: 1x3 plates are used to enable the half stud offset. Connection to the tender is by a short technic linkage.

Tender

Obviously with use of the BBB wheels the motor has to be in the tender, not ideal but so be it. Given that the locomotive cab is 7 wide the tender also needs to be 7 wide. Design of the tender was based around the motor pivoting with fixed front axles. While "sorting" around a box of miscellaneous technic parts an idea was formed to use the "propeller 4 blade 5 diameter" mounting to form the pivot, later on in the design process the pivot point was moved to the front of the motor using "pivot part", this allows the motor to swing easily. The rest of the tender build was fairly straightforward, and included a slope in the coal area and side screens on the front of the tender.

Running

Initial trial running on a small layout was successful, the only problem encountered being points placed closely together, although running at prototypical goods speeds was fine. The Q1's first public outing was at GWLTS-IV, where initial running proved very problematic and eventually lead to it being consigned to the 'naughty siding'. Problems were caused by the front boiler section working loose as well as binding between the locomotive and tender. Further bricks in the front boiler and a slight lengthening of the coupling between locomotive and tender enabled the Q1 to run reliably and at reasonable speeds. It certainly looked impressive with a rake of black coal wagons and a black brake van. Subsequently the Q1 has run at Petersfield without problems and looked good, albeit non-prototypical, pulling passenger coaches.

Photography

Initial trial builds of the Q1 were made in dark-grey as the only "2 x 1 x 1 1/3 with Curved Top" bricks available, to me were in dark-grey, however, it is also easier to photograph grey rather than black. So, in order to aid photography, two versions of the Q1 were built - one in dark-grey and one in black. This is actually prototypically correct as historically, in the days of black and white photography, locomotives were painted in grey for publicity photographs. Although building a dark-grey version for the sake of photography was a bit indulgent, if anybody comes across any dark-grey "1x2 panels with window" please let me know.

Acknowledgements

Jason Railton and Simon Bennett for some early comments on the initial prototype; William Howard and Stephen Juby for the front boiler SNOT design; Martin Long for ongoing comments during the build, supply of "black half rounds" and test track facilities.

Member Profile: Ed Diment

* What is your earliest LEGO memory?

I don't remember my earliest LEGO memory. Confusing I know, but I am aware that I started playing with Duplo when I was two, but can't be certain of my first memory. I can fairly well remember building a model of the CN Tower when I was six years old, so I guess maybe that counts.

* What was the earliest MOC you built?

I think the aforementioned CN Tower would have been one of the earliest, but I am sure there were earlier ones. I was never much into building sets, I'd make them once then they'd go straight into the pool of general LEGO for MOC building. I always much preferred making my own things.

* What brought you out of the dark ages?

I never went into the Dark Ages. I am aware of what they are from other AFOLs, but I never stopped building LEGO. I did have a 'twilight age' when I wasn't buying any LEGO; this was principally during 1991-1996 whilst I was at University. During this time I didn't take any LEGO with me, but would build when I was back at home during holiday breaks. The first set I bought when I started buying again was one of the first Star Wars ones, probably the X-wing or Tie Fighter B-wing set.

* What was your greatest LEGO moment?

Being taken to LEGOLand in Denmark when I was about 10 years old. We went by DFDS seaways and had a week long holiday. I had never seen so much LEGO, and there was so much to do and see, at the time no one I knew had been and a lot of people had never heard of LEGOLAND. The trip just made me totally obsessed about building things. I wanted to build everything that I had seen. When we got back my brother and I built an entire airport that covered the whole bedroom floor.

* What is the best MOC you've ever built?

Wow, that's a tough one, there are so many things I like to build that it is hard to compare between a champagne bottle, a panda, a spaceship, an aircraft, a skyscraper, a dinosaur, ... I guess most people would consider HMS Edinburgh to be the best, it is huge; it has a lot of detail; it is as realistic and scaled as I could make it and it was an epic struggle to bring it to life. I have made bigger MOCs and I have made MOCs with better touches of quality and building skill, but as a whole package I think Edinburgh takes it.

* What's your favourite set and why?

928 The Galaxy Explorer. A cliché I know, but when I was 6 and this set came out I nigh on wet myself. It was so far ahead of anything LEGO had done up until then. It was sleek and elegant; it had real spacemen; it had a lot of functionality and it was swooshable! Given the advance in the number of elements, the range of colours and the available themes, for my money LEGO have struggled to come up with anything as good. I know I can build this set without instructions; I played with mine so much I practically wore the studs off it.

* Are you a collector or a builder?

100% builder, I barely have any interest in sets; I know the numbers of practically none of them; I never keep

the boxes and have hardly any instructions. To me sets are just a source of parts, I simply cannot understand not constructing things from a construction toy; it's like buying a cream cake then sitting there staring at it until it rots - bizarre!

* What LEGO-related activity do you spend most time doing?

Building MOCs, followed by trawling the internet looking at what other people have built. I always check to see if anyone else has had a go at what I am going to build before I start a new project. I refuse to have a go at something unless I know I can build it better. For example, I'd never build an F14 Tomcat because I am certain I cannot get it any better than the Ralph Savelsberg's.

* How do you sort your LEGO?

I get quite fussy about building when at home. I have a LEGO room with a desk and won't build on the floor (my knees are past it for that sort of thing). The desk has drawers on it and is surrounded by other draws. Due to the quantity of black, white and grey that I have, I tend to sort these separately. Primary colours go in together and bricks are generally sorted by size and type (small plates, large plates, brick, technic beams, tiles etc. I have the inevitable lots of little draws for fiddly little parts such as clips, dots, tools etc. I am still in the process of developing the sorting by breaking things down further and further into sub-categories. I have also taken to using a bit of Peter Reid's 'family' technique for derivative parts.

* What is your favourite LEGO Element?

It has to be the jumper (2x1 plate with a single centre stud). Most people seem to favour the jumper or the dalek and I agree that they are both great parts, but the ability to get a half-stud offset is invaluable, especially working in confined spaces. I am also a big fan of technic beams, as, used well they make the internal structure of my larger MOCs extremely strong.

* What would be your dream LEGO element and/or colour variant?

I think cheesers (1x1 sloped tile) were a lot of people's unknown dream element. No one had really thought of them, but when they came along everyone wondered how they had managed without them. For colour variant I'd like cheesers in every colour. As far as elements go the double stud sided plate would be great. This has been mentioned many times before and I'd be happy to have them in any size or colour. The ability to have two tiles connected back to back by a plate in the middle with studs on both sides is the thing dreams are made of.

* What's with building big?

I never set out with the intention of building things deliberately big, it's just that I like building in minifig scale and some of the things I want to build turn out big at that scale. If you want to build a Type 42 Destroyer in minifig scale it **is** going to end up being 10ft long! Now that I have seen what people can do in micro scale I am more inclined to try my hand at some of that.

* What models are you working on now?

I have been doing massive amounts of Mos LEGO, build-

ing faster and more frantically than ever (sometimes a large MOC per day!). Ralph and I are collaboratively working on some micro-scale aircraft. I also have plans for a gothic sky-scraper and a Blacktron capital (space) ship – yes they'll both be big, so no surprise there then!

*** What was the last set you paid full price for?**

The green dragon creator set, March 2004, as a last minute extra birthday present for Annie from Toys'R'Us. Before that, probably nothing going back until the early Star Wars sets. Discovering the AFOL community means you almost never have to pay full-price for anything!

*** Which other AFOLs do you collaborate with?**

Traditionally I have collaborated with Peter Reid and Ralph Savelsberg, but more recently Simon Bennett and some of the other Mos LEGO builders. I am quite happy collaborate with anyone who'll have me!

*** Apart from LEGO, what else are you in to?**

I used to do a lot of fantasy war gaming and role playing, rather like Peter Reid and Rhys Knight, but this has fallen away in the past couple of years. I also used to be

a pretty serious league Tenpin bowler, used to ski and used to sail (dinghies, yachts, allsorts). I like to cook (well), I play the guitar (badly) and swim for exercise (when I remember to). I have a keen interest in military history (particularly naval), but I guess that HMS Edinburgh is a bit of a give-away. I actually prefer naval history from the first half of the 20th century and would like to build a WWII ship at some point.

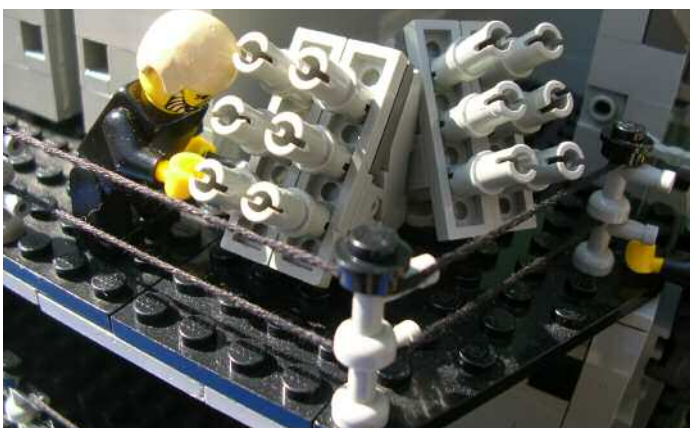
*** What do your non-AFOL friends make of your hobby?**

Annie has really got quite into LEGO and likes to build sets (she used to be really into puzzles). The rest of my family are quite used to it and seem impressed (if a little disinterested) by what I build. Those of my other friends that know I build also take a passing interest, as do some of my colleagues. I have only had a couple of people challenge me on it (my colleague's 17 and 19 year old daughters) who thought it was childish, but when I pointed out the crap that they wasted their money on they conceded the point somewhat.

HMS Edinburgh

by Ed Diment





Merrist Wood 2007

by David Tabner, photos by Ben Rogers

The day started for me at 05:00 in Southsea. I arrived at Stuart and Naomi's place at about 06:10; we loaded their stuff (and them) and set off via my home in Yateley. We arrived at MW just after 08:00.

The first issue was to sort and place the tables (with especial care for those under the train layout to be completely level) in the second science lab, our venue three years running now. The cars were unloaded and we started unpacking. A little while after 09:00, Ben arrived and started his unloading. Then Ed arrived too.

So, we spent the next two hours unpacking and setting up. The event opened at 11:00 but as usual we started to get visitors before, though in no great quantity. Setting up really took until midday as the finishing touches took longer than expected, especially with my half of the train layout which had never been fully assembled before. Through the day we had a great number of people come to the display; not as many as the first year when MW had had us signposted, but better than last year when the heavens were open all day. Although I didn't leave the display myself during the day, the others did, and had a good look around the rest of the show.



The weather was perfect. It was neither the scorcher that the first year was nor the washout of the second year, but it remained quite pleasant at our display as the sun shone outside. We had a good variety of visitors to the display (as usual); a couple of AFOLs (non-Brickish); lots of families (grandparents, parents and children); many of the college staff; and a good few people from the other displays around the campus. Typically it was the children who were the most interested, particularly the younger ones with Ben's Thomas, Toby and Diesel pulled trains, though the adult interest was strong with Ed's HMS Edinburgh, which had been specifically placed on the window-side bench which, being higher than the tables, elevated it to prominence and gave the display a central point.

This year's display had been intended to be general, with a special Exo-Force section but it more evolved into being ship-themed. Ed's giant warship was joined by Stuart's equally giant but much shorter (and very black) Blacktron assault ship and my Maersk scale ships returned once more, as well as my brother's big pirate



ship. Plus this year we had the new City port set on display – with the floating cargo ship, donated by LEGO specially for the event (my thanks to Jan Beyer). Our sections were: Blacktron, Mos LEGO, Exo-Force, ships, trains (with town) and army.

Throughout the day we operated the trains and HMS Edinburgh, built Exo-Force sets, and talked with the public, as well as watching the visitors intently to ensure the safety and integrity of the models.

17:00, the end of the event came and went, visitors were still coming in (with the help of some impromptu signs and another door opened), so I called out the close and we started to dismantle and pack up. This thankfully did not take as long and Ed and Ben were able to get away in reasonable time. My models and layout-half took longer but with Stuart, Naomi's and my mum's help we got finished in good order. We three went straight back to Portsmouth, tired but happy at a very successful day.

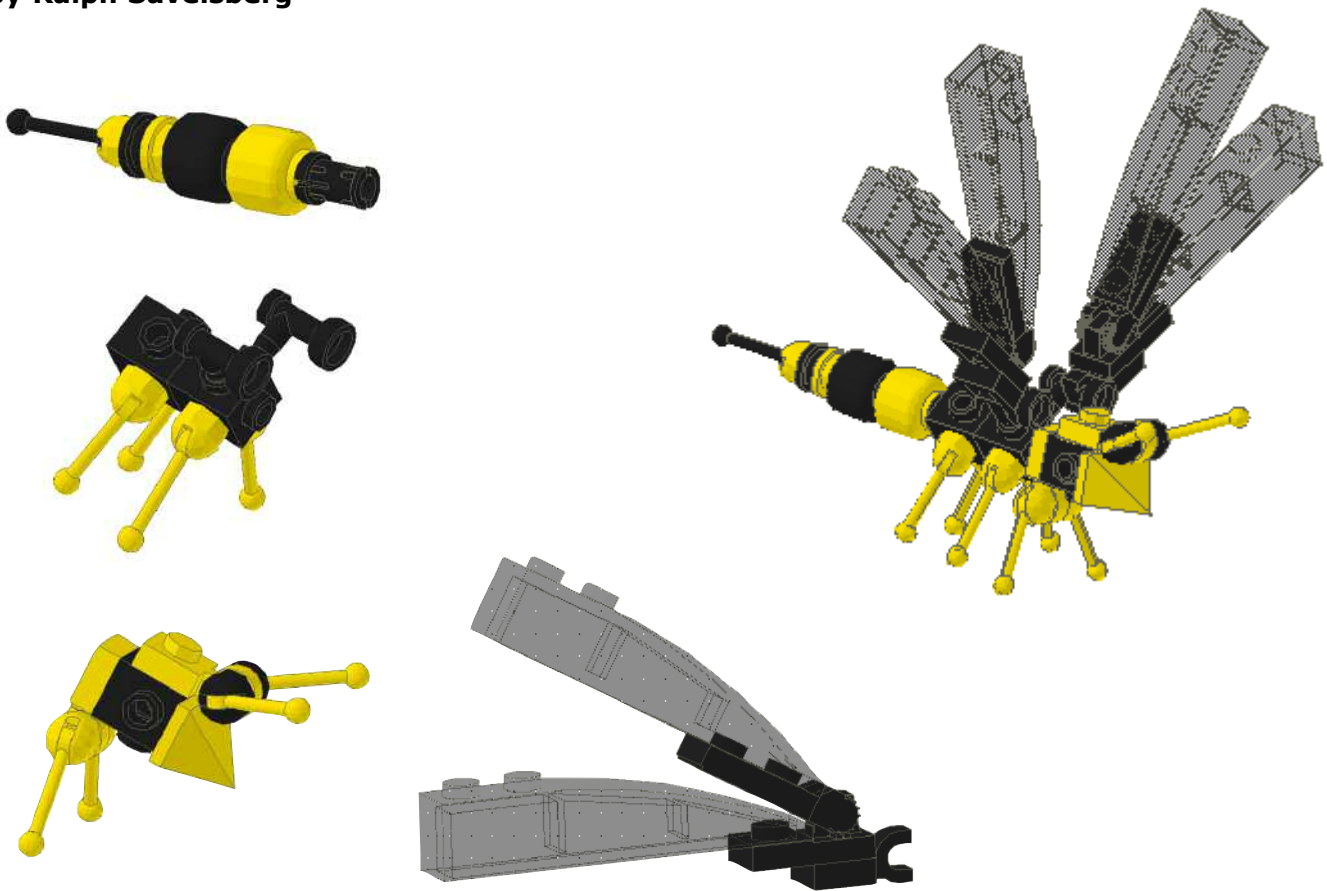
My thanks to fellow exhibitors - Ben Rogers, Ed Diment, Naomi Farr and Stuart Crawshaw - and also to the MW laboratories technician. My thanks too for the support of the MW regulars during the planning stages, alas none of whom had been able to actually attend this year.

Next year's show will be on the 18th of May.



12. Wasp

by Ralph Savelsberg



New Set Blues

by Stephen Juby

I love that new set feeling
But find it seldom lingers
Longer than the stud imprints
It pressed into my fingers.

The catalogue calls to me
A voice that I can't smother
"Just one set is not enough,
Go out and buy another!"

I head to the local shops
To do some LEGO buying
But find closed the only shop
That LEGO was supplying

The next town has a Woolworths
A guaranteed source, but then
Only for Bionicle
And some Dino Twenty-ten

I can't really go further
Just to buy a single set
So instead I go back home
To find LEGO on the 'net

Shop at Home is too pricey
EBay leaves too much to chance
BrickLink looks good, but I can't
Wait for the shipping from France

The new set blues are on me
I admit I've got it bad
So I sigh resignedly
And open up MLCad

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