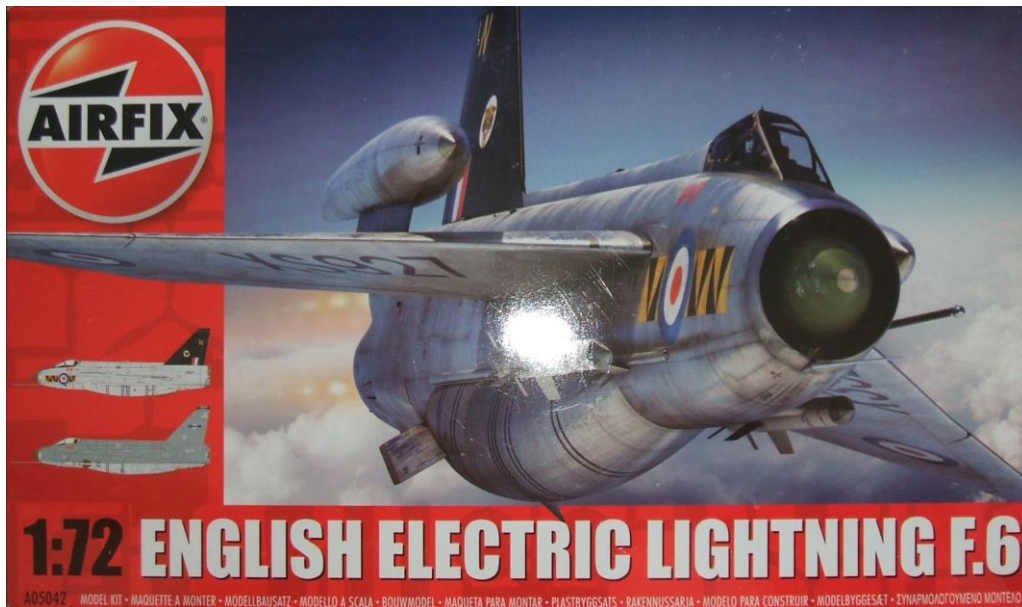


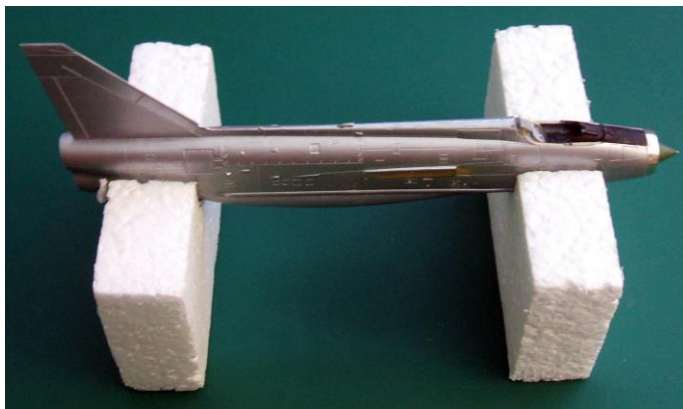
A LOCKDOWN AIRFIX LIGHTNING F6

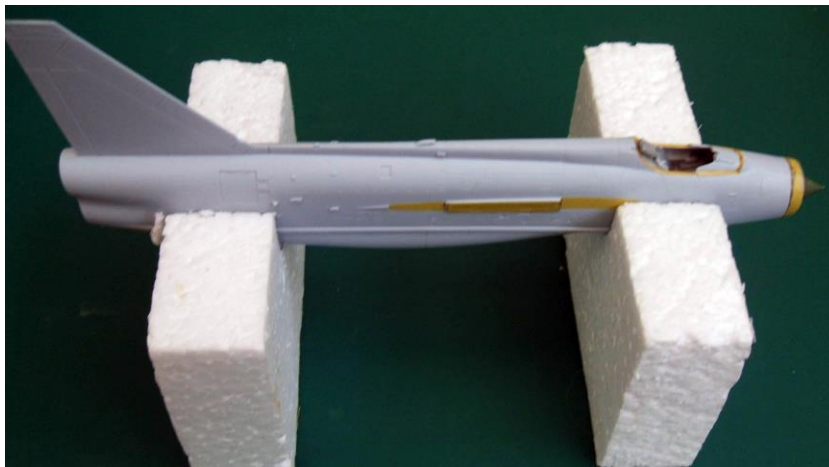


Tabling of the Frog/Hasegawa Lightning F6 at the March meeting by Bill Banks gave me the nudge to build the Airfix kit (Photo 1) from my stash to add to my F2A and T4 (thanks Bill).

With unlimited time through lockdown I decided to build this one SFTB and to give it my best shot at a brushed metal finish. I will not go through the build since this is already in my gallery notes under the F2A, but you do have some pictures (apologies for the quality) which take it from start to finish.

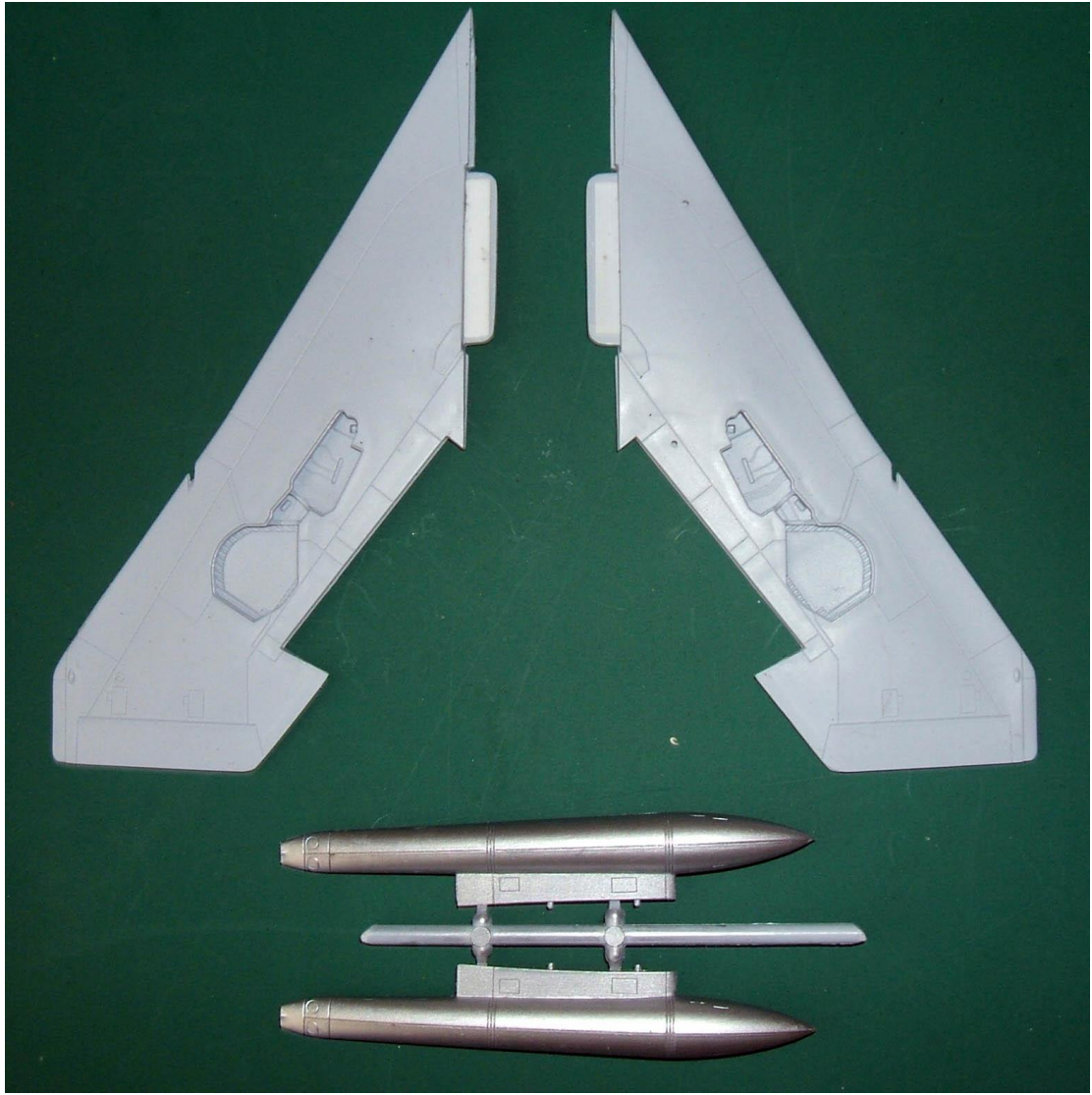
Accurate fitting is the key to a good metal finish and photos 2 to 5 show the heart of the model with intake and exhaust elements being fitted before fuselage closure and the polystyrene cradle used throughout the build (the depth is needed to accommodate the fixed fin).





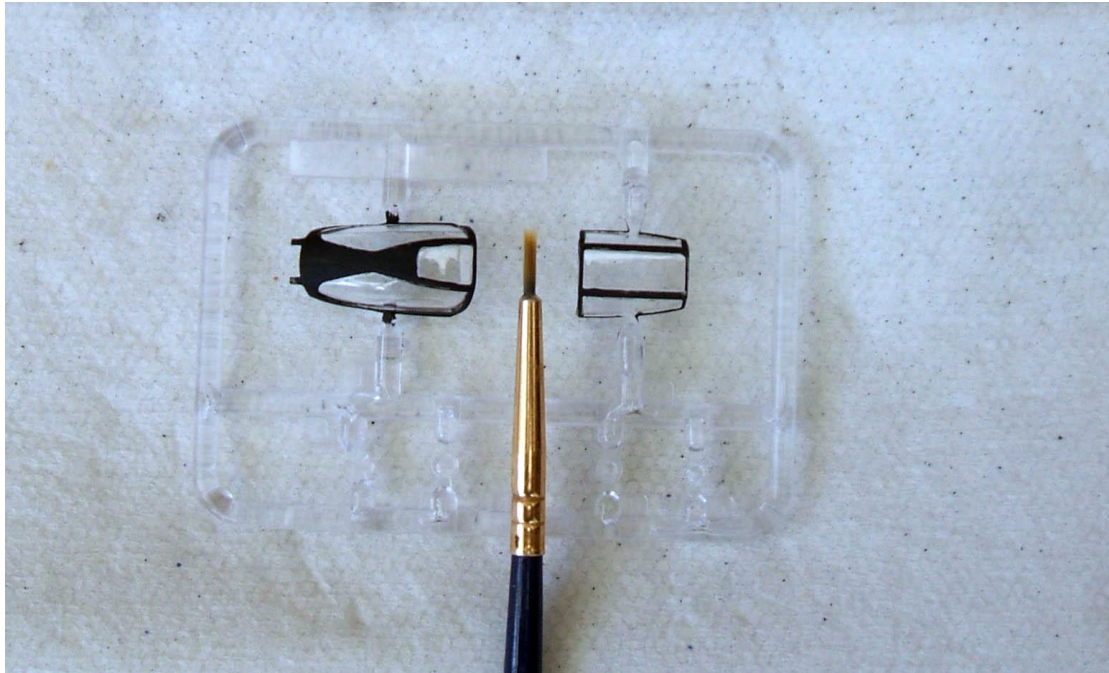
Photos 6 to 8 show the completed sub-assemblies before final build which had gone perfectly until this point!





In attempting to mask the windscreen with 1mm Tamiya tape for painting, I snapped it after 1 hours work despite using a new 10A blade (followed by an unprintable comment)!

Raiding the spare F2A kit in my stash for the clear sprue, I abandoned masking and painted both the screen and the canopy using a fine brush across the panel lines (photo 10) and completed both in 20 minutes (still learning).



Photos 10 to 12 are the final result which took 57 hours compared to the F2A at 37 hours. However, I did use all 132 stencil decals (which I'm not convinced add that much) and metal finishes take longer than green or two-tone grey.





Stay safe all

Arthur
May 20