I know what I like

lovely mug ugly mug

AMAZING
Grandad

Favourite Mug

There's my favourite mug: 'Amazing Grandad'

B : He doesn't use it all the time - it doesn't hold as much as the other one

Yes it's quite heavy. It's from my Grandchildren - it was for my birthday - no Father's Day.

I've got three grandchildren and they're wonderful. They're very polite. The oldest, he comes in, kisses me on the cheek and says: 'Hello, Grandad!' and he gets my hair and ruffles my hair. When I put my cap on, he takes it off, and he starts wearing it!

He's at university now. And the next one down she's trying to go to university, next year.

B: and the youngest is only 10 so she's got about nine years to go before she goets to university.

They live about ten minutes away.

This is the cup that I use all the time with all the flowers and everything round it. I like the flowers and the blooms of the flowers. Very nice.

They all know that it's my cup.

Who makes the tea?

A: B does. I also make it when I get the chance! We get along marvellously.

B: My mug has poppies on it

A: We use the same cups (for tea and coffee).
I know how much milk to put in.

I like my tea more milky than B does. She likes it - drop of milk in - that's enough! She's fussy, she's really fussy - I don't want that she says !!

B: No, I don't say that but I am fussy. I just like the milk just waved over it!

No 1.

co
op
99
tea
puts flavour first

I worked for a tea blenders over the West End

They used to blend tea. They came in from like India, Ceylon and places like that. They would blend it for various tastes. And I said to them, I said, what's the best tea? – He said Co-op 99 – honestly!

That's professional people who make the tea, you know, and they blend it. So it comes in by ship, and they take it off the ship, and they start blending it in their company. Then they sell it to the Co-op and places like that and Spar, and you know, and you could get a nice cup of tea.

We'd come out with big bags of tea and it was really enjoyable.

Pat: he used to drink tea by the bucket load! - not now though, but he used to.

A: The blenders, they didn't use tea bags - they used fresh tea leaves. And they used a strainer. Then pour the tea into it. So you never had any tea leaves in your cup.

B: I have a tea strainer in the cutlery drawer which was given to us as part of a wedding present. We had a little silver jug for milk for the sugar bowl - it was stainless steel, actually, and the tea strainer had a little holder . It's something we always used for many, many years, because we had tea leaves then. It went out of use after we started using teabags, because you don't need the strainer now do you ?

LYONS CORNER HOUSE
WIMPY

A: Lyons Corner House was like a tea room, and they used to give you a teapot for the tea, but they used to have one for hot water as well, so that you could keep topping up the tea. I don't know if they're still going? Probably finished now.

B: Yes it's all finished now. That one (by Trafalgar Square)was a huge one. People used to queue up there about lunch time, because they did used to do nice lunches. Where I worked, we used to go to one. A smaller one, before our store opened, to have a cup of coffee in the morning, and sometimes a bit of breakfast with it, which was quite nice.

They were very particular about their staff as well, which is quite nice, you know. They really thoroughly trained them. If they didn't pass muster, then they were out. They didn't stay.

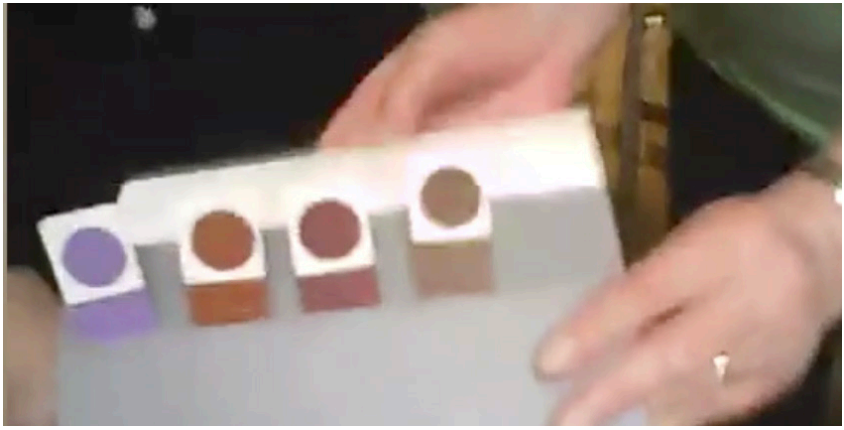
Colour

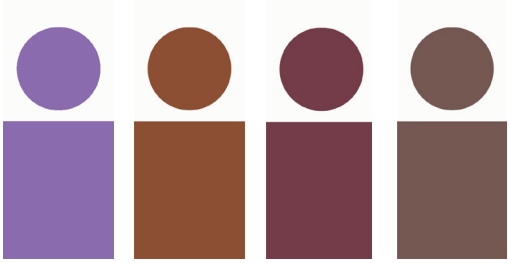
Do you have any favourite colours?

SH2-6B: Only the colours that I've shown that I used to paint my models.

SH2-6BX : I can dress him in anything, any day he wouldn't mind . The clothes you wear? You're not fussed?

Dave: No not at all

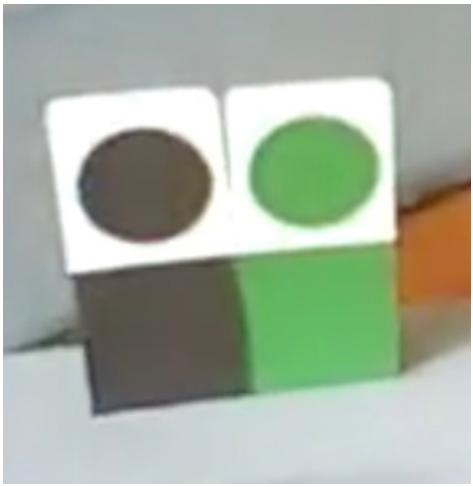


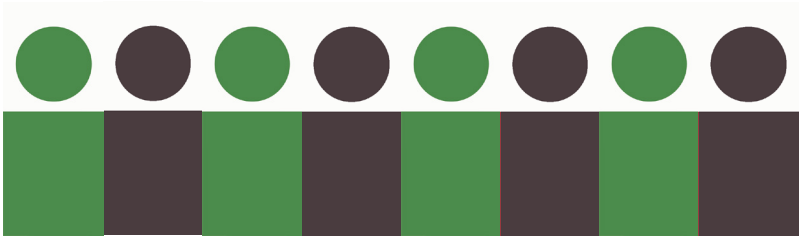


SH2-6BX : He’s only picked a few out

They’re they’re the ones he disliked the most

Yes they’re the rejects





I tell you what I did like was the racing green

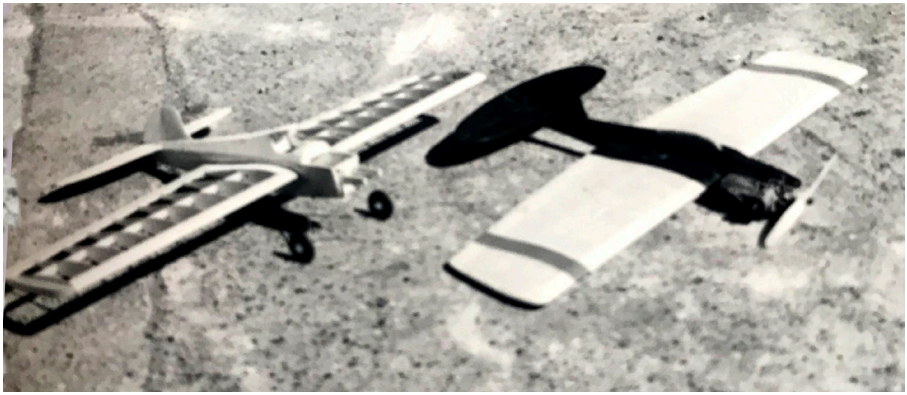
I used to make model aircraft when I was younger and you can fly them.

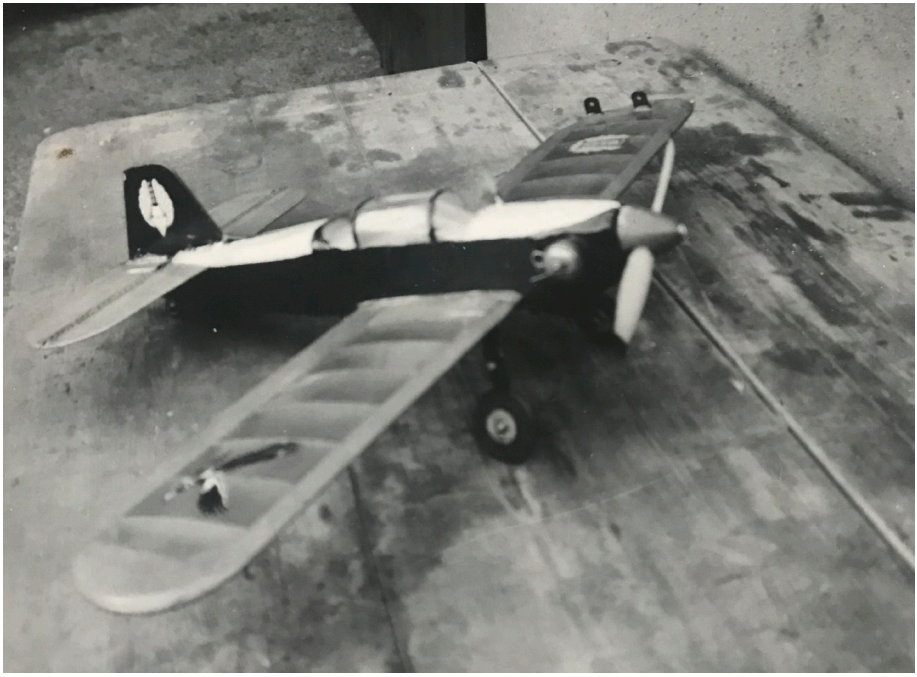
Racing green: you know the cars that race, they are normally painted green. So I painted my models green and black.

And that's the colour – those two were the main colours.

I used to make model aircraft when I was younger and you can fly them.

This is my nephew holding one of my planes.





These are some of the planes I made

I used to come home from work, and once I'd had my tea, I'd put a cover over the kitchen table, and make the models.

Balsa wood and tissue. You used to make the framework of the wings and the body, and I used to paint on the tissues. I'd normally put black on the ends and I put on green stripes and they looked good. And if you're flying, people can see, you know, what the planes are.

(It took) probably a couple of weeks. You put the tissues on and the dope and it tightens it all up and it shrinks so that you can put the paint on.

CONTROL LINE STUNT MODEL!

AMOUS
D

ker

ION STUNT

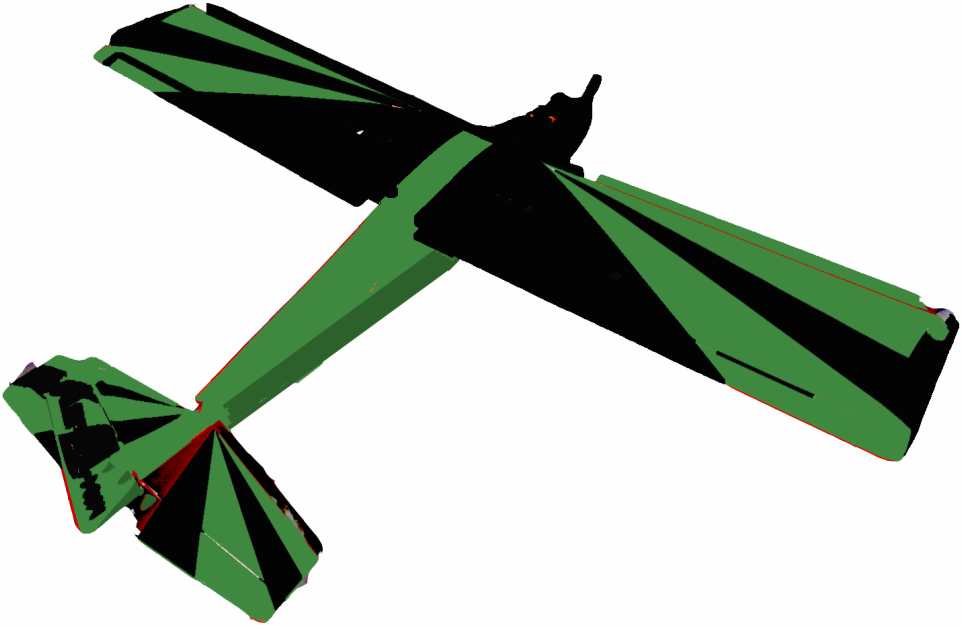
SPECIFICATIONS:
Wingspan 46 in.
Length 30½ in.
Wing area 414 sq. in.
Engines .15 to .29

FLYING by TOP FLITE 2635 South Wabash Avenue Chicago, Ill., U. S. A. WORLD CHAMPION MODEL MAKERS

I used to get models in boxes

We used to get them in the old Kent Road near Elephant and Castle. And you take all the bits apart and build the model. I used to get all my parts from there. All the balsa wood, big long lengths of balsa wood and different thicknesses. You want a lightwood on the wings and on the tail and then the fuselage, you want it solid. When you launch it in your hand, you've got to release it very carefully and away it flies.

One of the planes that I loved was the Peacemaker. That was wonderful. You can fly combat with that. That's what we called it, 'combat'. When we were all out flying, the would say: "Come on we'll fly combat". They didn't realise I had a fuselage made of wood. It was solid. Yeah, we had good laughs.

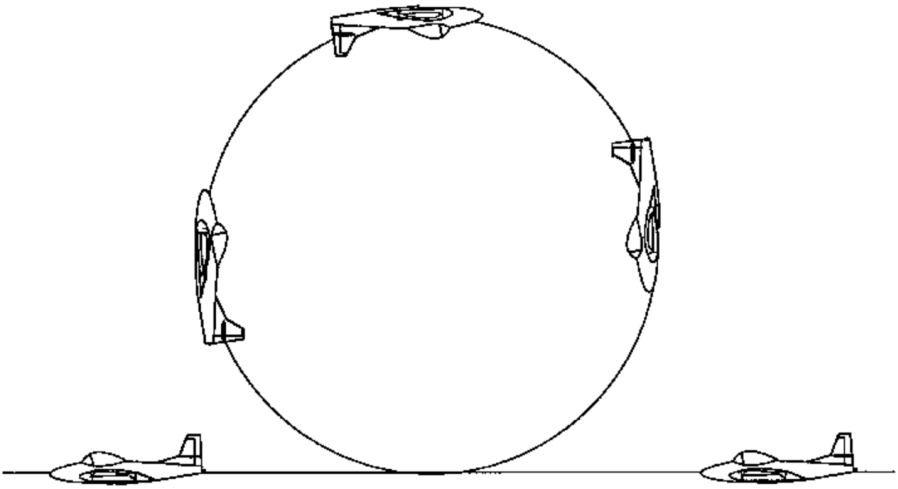


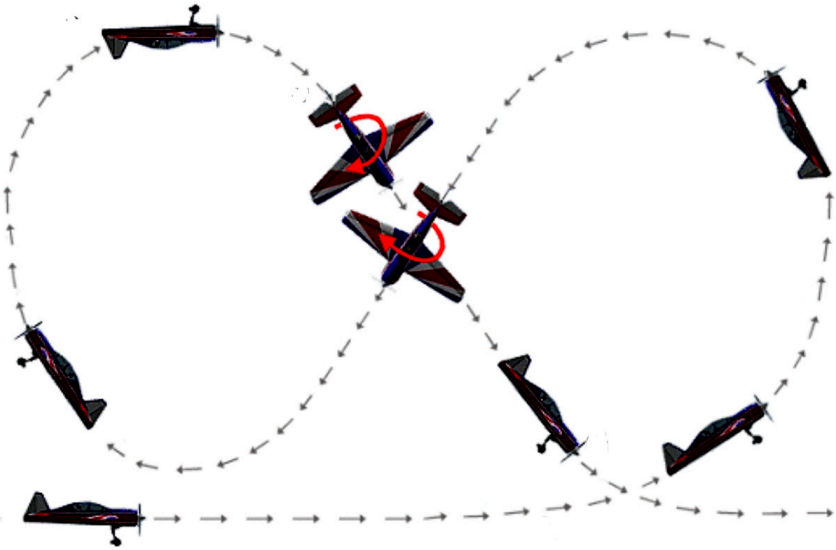
I used to put stripes on the wings. And I used to paint the ends black.

The green, to me that was a racing colour.

You had different engines: a glow motor or a diesel. I had some diesel engines. What you do is, you fill the plane with fuel and then you flip the propellor over to get it going. It starts and then you hold onto the control until its going fast .

Then my wife – she launched it.





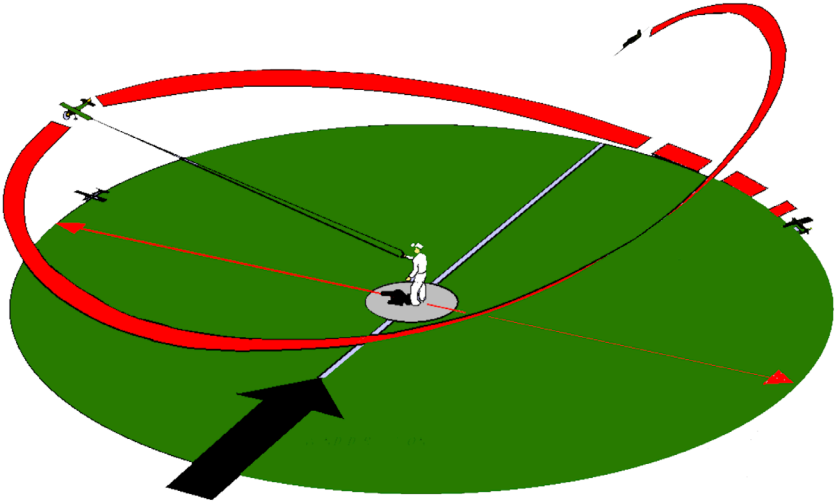
We used to fly over Epsom Downs and it was really lovely.

I had a controller and you operate it by your wrist, and you move it up and down.

You can do a loop, you can do figure eights like that - and it was amazing.

Mine was quite small, some of them were even bigger. With the radio control they could do loops and roll over. And it was fantastic to watch them.

My brother used to fly with a radio control and it was great fun. Sometimes when they come into land, they could throttle back the engine and bring it into land and it was amazing.



I enjoyed it. We went to an aerodrome, an RAF aerodrome and there was a team there that used jet engines. They used to pump it up to get it going. They were doing about 120 miles an hour.

They had a pole in the ground and you put your hands in the pole so that it held your hand or it would pull you over. They used to go round in circles.

It was amazing how fast they were going!

SH2-6BX : Dangerous hobby!

We used to have contests with planes. Four of us used to be in the middle, and you'd got a partner. And they started all the engines up. And all four of us going round. The idea was to see if you could catch it up, and hit the tail. We had great fun doing that.

Chasing the planes and crashing into one another.

I used to make these planes really solid. I used to use plywood, quarter inch plywood. I used to cut it and shave it. The fuselage was plywood. And it could take the bashing. Very strong. Green and black .That was great fun.

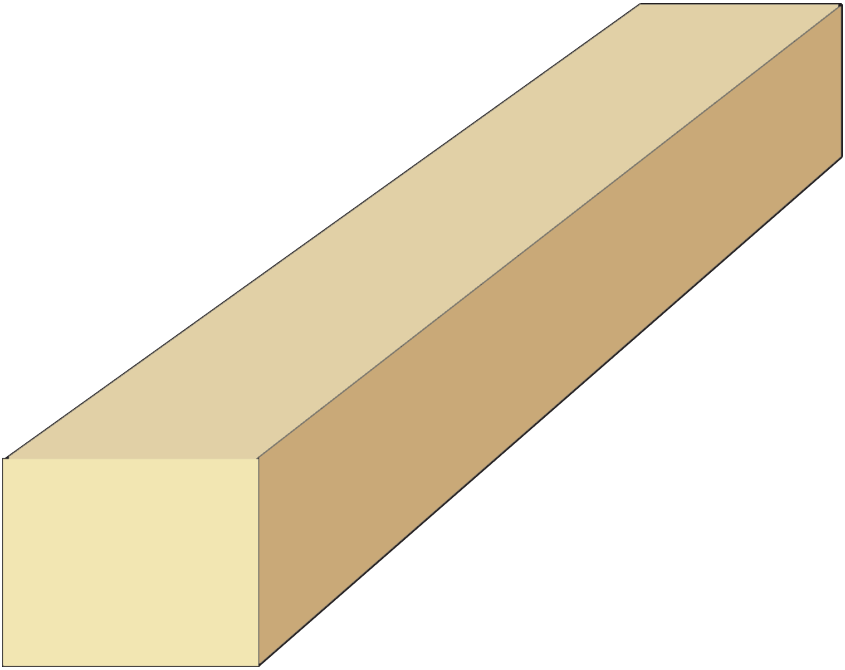
We had a moped and SH2-6BX sat on the back and I used to strap the plane on her back. They are big. You've got a wing span of something like five feet wide. And on the way round Tattenham Corner with SH2-6BX sitting on the back, I had to take care when I rode the bike because if we went too fast we'd take off! It was great fun!

How she put up with it I don't know. We had great fun didn't we?

SH2-6BX :Yes you did, didn't you? !

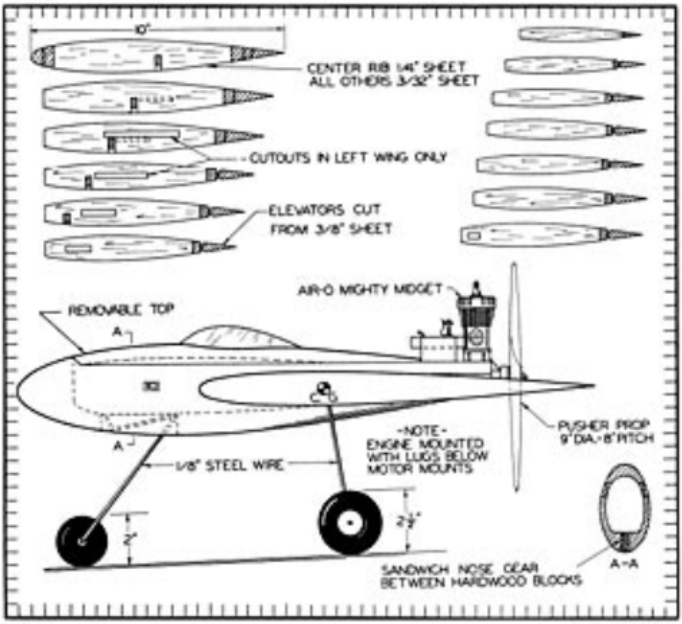
SH2-6B: People used to say: "Look at them go!" With SH2-6BX on the back. With it strapped to her back. It was great fun.

I had to buy plenty of perfume for her! She used to go to work smelling of meadow fields!



I made a big box. And this box was about seven or eight foot long. We put the models in it.

My brother and myself used to carry it and we went on the train with it to Hackney Marshes, and it was great fun.


10"
CENTER RIB 1/4" SHEET
ALL OTHERS 3/32" SHEET
CUTOUTS IN LEFT WING ONLY
ELEVATORS CUT
FROM 3/8" SHEET
AIR-O MIGHTY MIDGET
REMOVABLE TOP
A
A
PUSHER PROP
9" DIA.-8" PITCH
-NOTE-
ENGINE MOUNTED
WITH LUGS BELOW
MOTOR MOUNTS
1/8" STEEL WIRE
2"
2 1/2"
SANDWICH NOSE GEAR
BETWEEN HARDWOOD BLOCKS
A-A

SH2-BX : He might remember this when I say – one of the guys had found a very old plan

SH2-B: Ha Ha! I cant stop laughing!!

SH2-BX: He made it, and he built it over the week, and on the Sunday we went round to his house, and he drove us out to Epsom Downs. And he's going: "No-one is going to know what this is called. It hasn't been made for years."

We were in hysterics, because these two little kids who were about seven or eight, came up and said : "Oh look! That's an old Arrowhead!"

He was so upset that they knew what it was !

SH2-BX: And the thing was, he crashed it on the first flight!

SH2-B: Ha Ha Ha Ha! It was so funny !

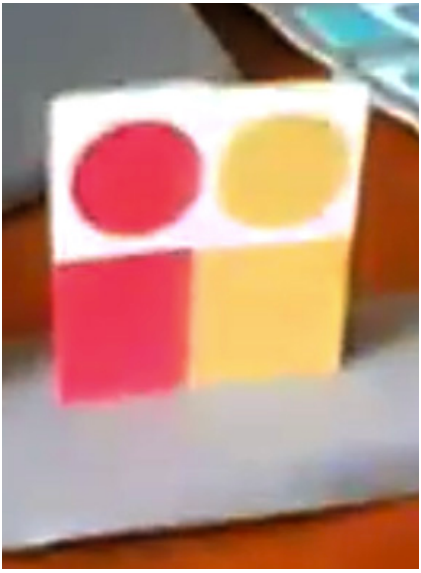
SH2-BX: We went up there in all types of weathers. On Epsom Downs it's very very open. I mean obviously there's the race course there as well. And if it rained. It rained. And you'd get soaked! And if it snowed.. We didn't go in the snow but if did snow.

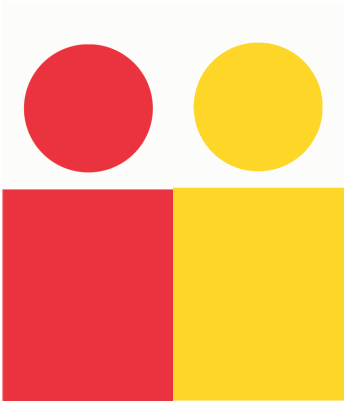
SH2-B: Yes we flew in the snow. You couldn't believe it. It would be snowing and then ....it was great fun! Mind it was cold.

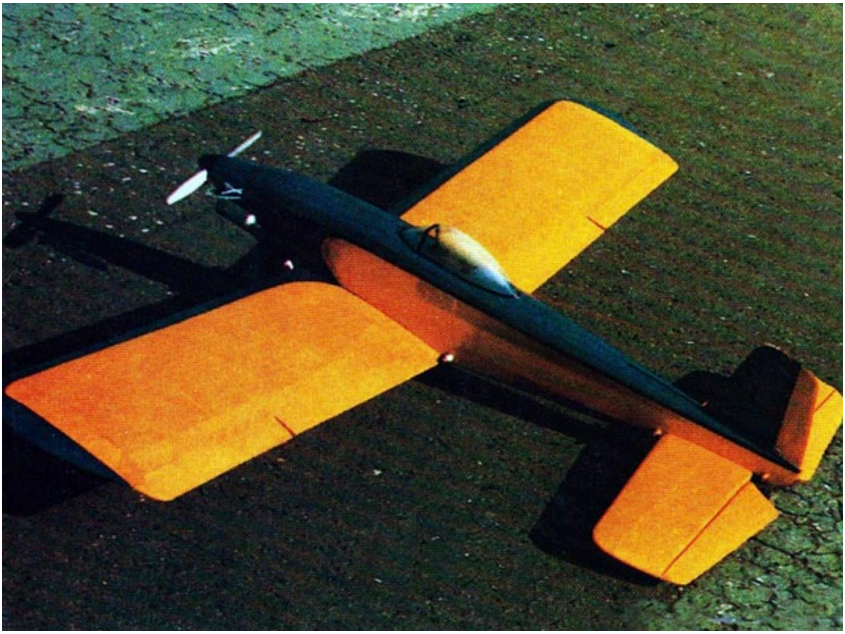
I took my wife's sister, she said:" I don't like this! It's so cold!"

I bought after that, a motorbike and sidecar. We had 650cc Triumph Thunderbird. That was a bit more comfortable, I suppose, for you?

SH2-BX: Yes, that was much better, I was protected from the elements then.



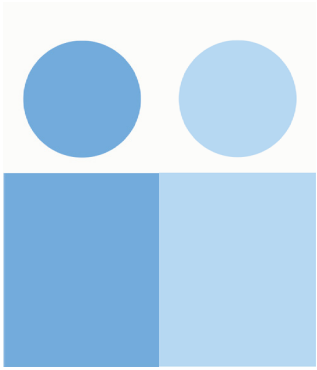




Another one I made was called the Crusader

I didn't like the yellows much because when the fuel covers the plane when you're flying it goes a dirty colour.

But I had great fun doing it.



SH2-BX: That one. That colour blue, he picked up when he was talking about his days in the Air Training Corps, and it's the same Airforce blue.

A little bit darker than that but then there was a paler shirt, you know, to go with it. He was thinking about, all those things, and the black tie.

I was in the Air Training Corps

We were the Junior Air Corps for the Royal Air Force. We wore a uniform with the RAF colours.

I went into the cadets when I was thirteen until I was nineteen, just after the war. The young ones today don't realize what's around. You don't have to pay anything. You get a uniform, shirts, trousers, tunic and it doesnt cost you a penny. You go to camp once a year, and then you go flying. It was brilliant.

When you went to camp there used to be forty of us in one big building. Like they had during the war where the air crew was.

SH2-BX: When he came out he was a Flight Sargeant. I was pround of him for that.

E
WC486
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We just had great fun. We went flying.

They had a Chipmunk. I sat in the front seat and the pilot sat in the back seat because I didn't have a pilot's license.

We used to go up to Biggin Hill - and we used to fly from there.

HW R

80
ROYAL AIR FORCE
8

But I flew in some wonderful planes. The big ones were the Shackleton, and that was a bomber like the Lancaster. We were carrying bombs, depth charges, and torpedoes. They had a crew of about seven to twelve. I went up there for six hours and we were dropping bombs up in Scotland.

SH2-BX: They weren't real bombs!

They used to hit the target and explode. They were teaching navigators to use the cameras. They had three people. They had the navigator, the bomber and the pilot and it was too crowded. So they trained the navigator to learn to drop bombs.

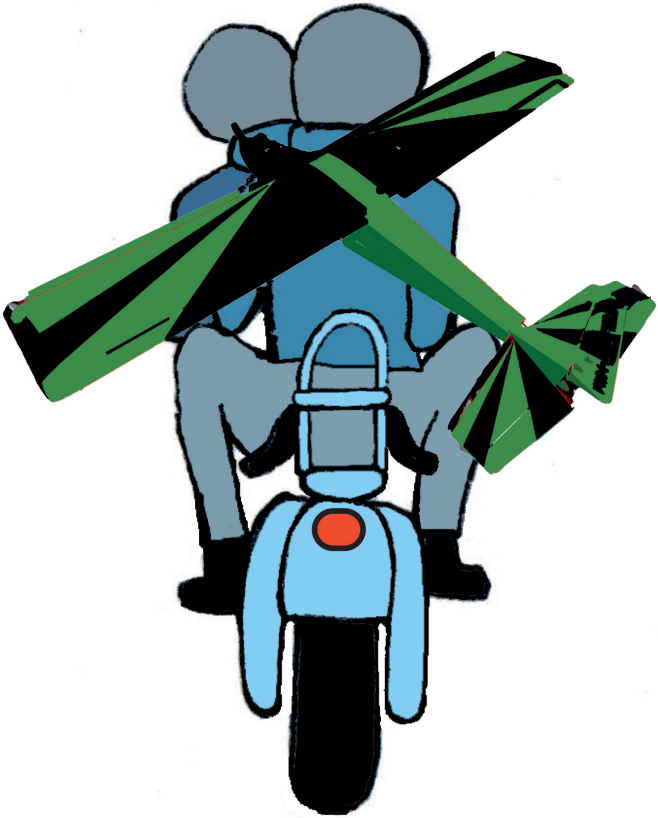
The Shackleton I went up in, the radar was so good. Because we were after Russian submarines. They used to come to the surface. Once they come to the surface they give themselves away. The Shackleton would go after it, and either drop depth charges, or bombs to scare them off.

I tell you what: I've got a pilot license for a glider, and that was wonderful. I was up there on my own flying the gliders. That never cost me a penny. The RAF paid for that. I got my A and B and I was going in for a C certificate. And then Pat came along ..

SH2-BX : Don't blame me!

I didn't go in for it. I left the cadets. I tell you what – I fell in love.

SH2-BX: The truth is, he changed jobs, and it was longer hours so he couldn't keep up with the Air Training Corps. Which was sad but he had to in the end say: " Sorry, but I have got to leave". I was sad for him because we had some wonderful social nights. Wonderful dinner and dances and that sort of thing. It was lovely. It was just one of those unfortunate things he had to give up because he chose to change his job.



SH2-BX : I met SH2-B through an old school friend of mine. Her brother belonged to the Air Training Corps.

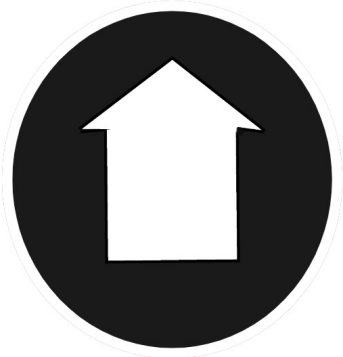
Thursday evening they used to have a social evening and she said: "Would you like to come along with Michael and I? " And I said :" Yes, fine".

And I went, and this is the proceeds!

Fifty seven years later that's not bad going is it?

In October we'll be married 57 years!

Personal Space



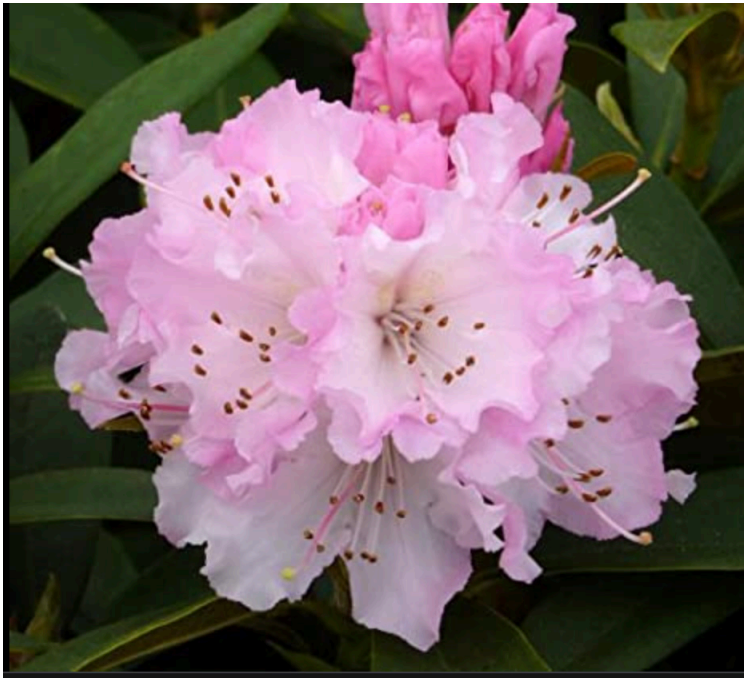
I do like gardening

(When we lived in London) I built a wall round, with bricks and mortar. And the grass: I prepared the base first with peat and then we laid the grass – turf - and it looked very nice.

We had fuschias.

Down the road from where we lived there was a beautiful big bush. We knew the people in the house. So I went along and said, can I take a cutting off your bush? So I took some cuttings and prepared them in pots, and then put in these seeds to make the plant grow. And sure enough, it did. And I had some beautiful fuschia plants, and they came out like a big bush. We had quite few didn't we?

I am getting a bit old to do it now - and it's a struggle for me to do it.



We had rhododendrons

- and hydrangeas

and they were lovely.

I put in a fish pond

My goldfish were about that big (11-12 inches?)

I had a special filter which my brother designed, and I had a big tank with filters inside, and the water was circulating and it was lovely and clear.

It was beautiful.

Theatre Curtains

I was a floor layer in my time. I had my own firm - and I had a lot of customers. It required quite a lot of tools and ladders, and I could get on with the work. I did a lot of curtain work as well.

When I worked for my uncle we also did big curtains, and we did it for theatres in the West End. These curtains were about ten meters high with special rails and rings and everything. And being as I was young and lighter then! - I was in a Bosun's chair, and they'd winch me up to the top of the theatre. Oh that was hard work!

They used a winch to get the curtain up. In the theatre you've got a fire curtain - and oh! it was heavy! I quite enjoyed it, you know. It was a lot of learning.

My favourite place

So the favourite place in the flat is the lounge because it's got the biggest window.

It's about three metres by four metres and I can look at the garden through the window, but it's pouring down with rain (today). It's not fair!

As soon as I came in, I thought, this is it. Should have done this years ago. And you know, we are very happy here.

SH2-6X: It was a big move. It took me longer to settle than SH2-6. He came in (there was no furniture obviously) and he took one look around the place and he said: "I love it".

We saw another place before here, and it was absolutely dreadful. But coming here, it the was like the sun coming out. And SH2-6 was happy the minute he walked in here. So once I knew that he was happy - we just went home and I started to pack up and three months later we were here.

I was sitting here and watching and a couple of foxes came round and they were looking through the window.

It was amazing. I was watching them and there was the dog fox, he was a big fox. The vixen was very small, and I couldn't believe it. And there he was, looking through the window, and I couldn't believe it.

And I thought, stay still, and he'll stay there, but he ran off didn't he? He suddenly ran off.

I'm waiting to see if the foxes have mated. We'll have to wait and see if they come out with any young.

We went to coffee morning, and uh, I was sitting there, and all of a sudden there were two heads popped up, two foxes

They were just looking through the window. I don't know what they're doing it for? . These foxes were different from the ones that were looking through our window. They were more sandy coloured. I was watching them and then when SH6Z got up it frightened them and off they went.

I watched them go up at the back of the complex and I was looking and looking and I've seen them running along the back, and I thought, what do you call it, a den? Their den must be along that rear wall.

It was amazing that they come so close in the daytime. I thought they would only do it at night, you know. But they they're as brave as anything. I was amazed, and I was looking at them and I saw them walking not at the top of the bushes, but along, underneath the bushes and it was amazing.

We get quite a lot of birds, you know, opposite we've got Silver Birch trees and London Plane and we get some Woodpeckers. You can hear them tapping away you know, it's amazing. I'm hard of hearing but I can hear them.

I saw them over on the left hand side. They're amazing. They're beautiful coloured birds, especially the woodpeckers, beautiful

The Wood Pigeons, we've got lots of wood pigeons, and they don't come out they stay in the trees where they sit.

But you know we see quite a few things, and I enjoy what I watch and I wouldn't harm any of them. They're lovely.

And we get a lot of magpies and they land in the garden.

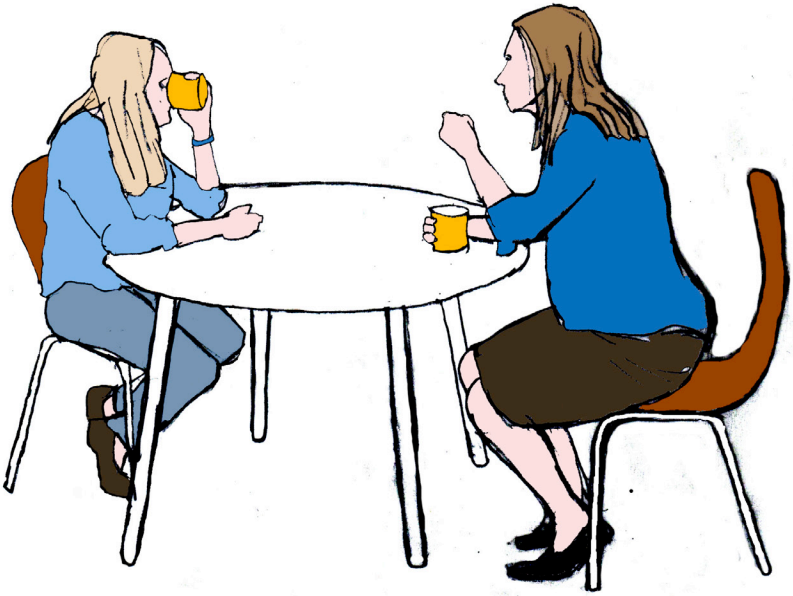
You can see the young magpies because their tails are not very long. And you can watch those. You get quite a lot of those.

It's quite good, you know you can look from where we are in the lounge.

But we've got some hedgehogs that come across. They come from where the school is and they come through there. You don't catch them, just leave them to play.

SH2-6X: The neighbours cats' they come around here. We've got a circle of lavender bushes outside.

SH2-6: And they can go underneath the lavender and they walk through it and you cant see them. Then when they come across the park you can see them. You know it's amazing really



People Watching

SH2-6X: In the summer time we can see them all sitting out there and then they'll disappear when lunch time comes and then they'll come out again after lunch and sit in the sunshine for a little while. Then they'll disappear again and turn up again about four o'clock and have another cup of tea

SH2-6: You can watch it, what's going on and it's great fun. Opposite our flat is the the restaurant on the ground floor, where we are, and we watch the staff come out.

Because they're not allowed to smoke in the premises. I don't smoke, and I watch them sitting around all dying to have a fag. I give them names.

Ha! Ha! Ha! I say: " Here she comes: 'Cigarette Lill'!

To watch them, it's really funny. They've got to get out here quick and have a fag. How silly they are! It's great fun!

The carers, they come out as well. And they're in – what are they in? What are they in a blue suit? The carers? And they come out and and they're all having a cigarette.

SH2-6: It's amazing you know, what you see. The children come down here early in the morning to go to school, and they line up the other side of the hedge.

I can hear them. They go in at half past eight in the morning and they make quite a lot of noise. Fighting and messing about. It's quite good actually.

They play with their balls along there, bouncing them. And one day there were three balls in the garden weren't there? It's quite nice .

SH2-6X: This morning there was just this sea of umbrellas all different colours. All I could see was little heads bobbing along and then the big umbrellas. Really lovely coloured ones. It was amazing this morning the colour of the umbrellas!

Paintings by Winston Hassall

SH2-6: We've got some watercolours and we've got oil paintings.

I've got one, I went into the gallery and I told him what I had, and he said: "Hold on to it". He said "It's worth a lot of money". I got a good return for my money.

I went along to the gallery (and said) any more pictures painted by Winston? He said no, I just can't afford him. He said his paintings costs quite a lot of money.

You know Blair? His wife? What's her name? Cherie Blair? She opened a bookshop in Valetta in Malta and she was given this picture by Winston (Hassall). That was his name who did the painting. And I thought that's what I should do, put money in the pictures. So I went along to the gallery and I bought a lot of pictures.

When we walked through Valetta. We went over there by ferry. There were some paintings. I said: "Look they're by Winston." And all of a sudden this fella came out and he said: "Can I help you?" and I said: "You've got some paintings done by Winston?" And then we realised he was Winston!

They're not allowed to sell it to the public. You've got to sell it to the galleries. What he did was he went and worked on the oil rigs in the meantime. I told him what I'd got. He said: "It's unbelievable!" We took photographs of what we've got and sent it off to him. Because he wanted to know. Because the galleries paid him.

SH2-6: That was the most wonderful day of my life when our daughter got married in Malta. We took a lot of people out.

SH2-6X: We had 60 guests out there.

SH2-6: It was a wonderful day. And they looked lovely didn't they? When I walked down the aisle with her. My daughter said: "Pack it up Dad, don't cry!"

But it was a wonderful day and everyone enjoyed themselves.

SH2-6X: That's his two favourite places, the dining room table and the chair.

SH2-6: You've got do something active. You just can't sit around. You've got to do something, and that's what I do normally Word Search, it's quite interesting. In The Mail, we get the Mail everyday.