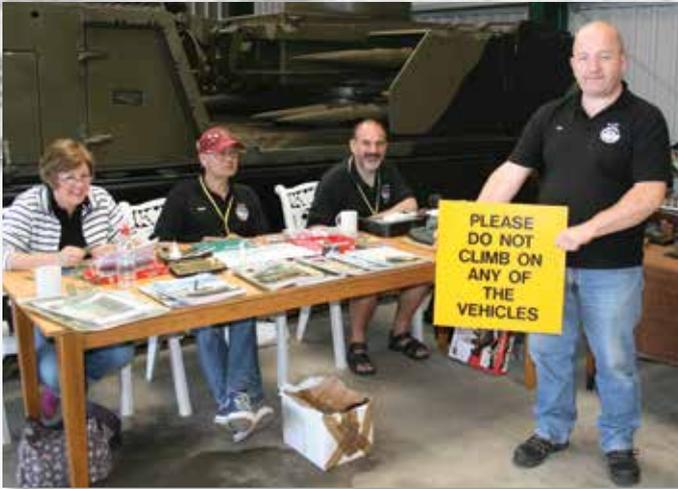






LEFT & BELOW: From the Weybourne Camp archives we were allowed to borrow photos that were used as part of the research for the project. Photos: Muckleburgh Collection.



Plans were drawn and the Internet trawled for suitable models. Fortunately MAFVA already has a good relationship with many of the small scale model manufacturers and retailers as many attend the MAFVA National Competition held every June at Duxford. We were therefore able to negotiate a good discount from Milicast, Dan Taylor Modelworks and Hannants as well as donations of kits from Peter Bailey of Bull Models. A second visit enabled us to gather more information and the Collection kindly allowed us to take away some of their archive material that is so essential for the project.

All of the kits for the project have now been bought and distributed amongst the branch members, with work on going to produce the models in 1:76 scale. Research into the buildings is about to start and the next stage will be the construction of the baseboards that will occupy the glass cabinet. The space available is just under 2 metres square and so the diorama will not be an accurately spaced model but rather aims to capture the spirit of Weybourne Camp as it was in 1944. So bell tents, Nissen huts and wooden cabins that provided the accommodation will be made based on drawings and photos. Over 200 figures have been purchased to populate the diorama and of course there are 3.7" and Bofors 40mm AA guns with tractors. To add interest a convoy of Scammell tank transporters carrying Cromwells will be passing along the road by the camp.

As well as vehicles, figures and guns we have some aircraft that were used at Weybourne. The Queen Bee was a remotely controlled, converted and unmanned Tiger Moth biplane that was used as an airborne target for the guns. These are being built by aviation modeller Gary Wenko. As part of his research he went to RAF Henlow where an example of a Queen Bee converted back into a Tiger Moth is housed and often flown. Gary is also building a Junkers Ju 88 bomber that crashed onto the beach near Weybourne during World War Two. (A little poetic licence is being used as the Ju 88 crashed there in 1942 and by 1944 would have been removed!)

The diorama itself will be put together after the museum closes for the winter in November 2014 and will be complete in time for the reopening of the Muckleburgh Collection in the Spring of 2015. This is a great little project for Cambridge MAFVA and we hope to emulate the success that the London MAFVA Branch has had with their display of fine models in the Land Warfare Hall at Duxford.

So in conclusion, whilst model making is a solitary past time joining MAFVA opens up plenty of opportunities to meet other model makers and join them on their trips and excursions. As a MAFVA member you may even get involved in a project like the Muckleburgh diorama. Contact MAFVA at [www.mafva.net](http://www.mafva.net) for more details on how to join. **MM**

ABOVE LEFT: Dave Stringer shows the sign that will be used to stop enthusiastic punters climbing on the models that make up the diorama. Other members of MAFVA Cambridge look on...

BELOW: The majority of AFVs in the Muckleburgh Collection are running examples. Here we see the beautifully restored Comet at the Open Day in May. Photo: Gary Elmes.

