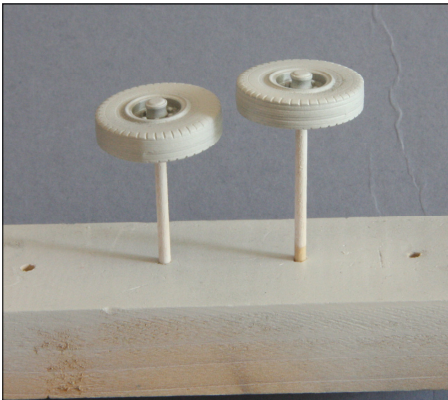


Painting

Here are a series of photos showing the stages in painting a wheel, in this case, a 7mm wheel for a mechanical horse trailer, manufactured by S&D Mouldings.

- 1 Clean up any flash and moulding defects on the wheel with files, knife etc. In this case an easy job as the casting is very good and the only mould line is around the circumference of the tyre and therefore vanishes in the tread pattern.
- 2 Clean with a cream cleaner (eg Cif) and an old tooth brush. This removes any casting residue and gives a slightly rougher matt surface for painting.



- 3 Attach the wheel to a cocktail stick to make it easy to hold. Use a very little superglue if required. For parts with a pegs at the back I use a piece of plastic tube as a holder.



- 4 Spray with a primer, e.g. Tamiya or Halfords. At this stage it is easy to see any defects which can now be fixed. For spray painting I use a strip of wood with holes to hold all the parts. If this is long enough you will not prime your hand!



5 I paint with acrylics starting with the wheel centre in red (Coat d'Arms 145). Don't worry how neat it is as the grey will cover the red, however, red (and worse still, yellow) will not cover grey. I also find it easier to get a neat edge this way. The cocktail stick holder can be slowly rotated as the paint is applied.



6 This is followed by the tyre in dark grey (Cd'A 212) and then the tyre tread in a slightly lighter shade of slate grey (Cd'A 533). The effect is fairly subtle and you may choose a lighter grey to enhance the effect.





7 Use a brown wash (Games Workshop Earthshade) to paint the whole casting. I find the Earthshade works well over many colours while the black wash is too harsh. Sepia can be used for a lighter effect. This brings out the detail and dulls the bright colours as well as giving a more matt effect.



8 Additional washes can be added as required as well as some mud. In this case a mid brown weathering powder from Carrs has been worked into the tread with a small brush. Excess can be wiped off with a bit of kitchen towel.

Below: the completed trailer which will be located in Okehampton goods yard. A second trailer is under construction as well as a mechanical horse.



Paul