

Now then....

This months issue highlights some of the new products we have managed to source for you.

Our featured striper this month is **Melissa Gee**. And the Airbrush Artist is **Beej Curtis**.

As always plenty of info on upcoming shows and everything we feel will be interesting to you regarding the pinstripping world.

Details of the first shows of the season can also be found below. Let's hope we can catch up with some of you there

In this issue we also have the first of our occasional series of interesting places to go when in USA to see some of the best cars and pinstripping in the world.

Kris & Lyn

New Pinstrippers Forum

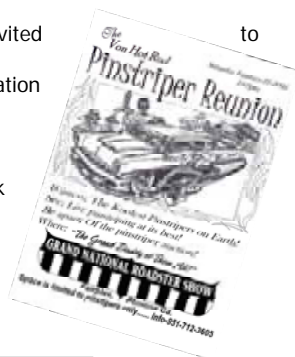


We have been invited to moderate the new Pinstrippers Forum at Derek Stainton's **Custom Paint Shop** site. So hope to get some lively discussions going there.

www.custompaintshop.co.uk

Tootall off to USA

Tootall has recently been invited to attend the Grand National Pinstripping Reunion an invitation only event. He flies out on January 19 and we have asked him to don his roving reporter hat and report back on the event, the people and take a few pics for us. We hope to have the full low down for you in March issue.



On the Road Again

Normally the season kicks off with **Wheels Day** at Rushmore Arena in Aldershot run by Surrey Street Rodders. Although this traditionally takes place on Good Friday this year Easter has moved further into April and Wheels Day will be on 14th April. This means that the Spring Nationals at Billing Aquadrome will take place **before** Wheels day on the 7/8/9 April



Our Shop & Drive in Striping Parlour in action – Bovington 2006

PUK Show Schedule

The first shows of the year, where you will find us and all the gear are:-

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/9 April | AACI Spring Nats. Billing Aquadrome. |
| 14th April | Wheels Day , Rushmore Arena, Aldershot |
| 29/30/01 April | AACI May Bank Holiday , Billing Aquadrome |
| 13/14 May | Neils Spring Nats , Drayton Manor park |
| 19/20/21 May | Leicester Custom Show Magna Park, Leicester |
| 27/28 May | Fins 'n Chrome , Stockton on Tees |

Hot Rod Interiors

This month we took a look at a funky range of mail order products of a slightly larger nature.



This site however seems to have everything from Elvis & Betty Boop kitsch items for the kitchen to furnishings for the whole house, Restaurant etc.... Prices from £5 - £5000 for the full monty.

www.happydaysmailorder.co.uk

New Stuff



Scotch®
471
Series
BLUE



Fine Line Tape

The most flexible and conformable tape available; it provides masking protection for complex curved lines, sharp curves, irregularly shaped panels, over rivets and into seams. These 33m reels are available in 1/8" & 1/4" at £6.95 reel. The ONLY tape used by American Kustomisers.

Pinstripping Masters Vol. II

Just heard, that **PM II**, is delayed and not now expected till summer. (sob)

Aluminium Brush Washer Specially adapted to suit pinstripping brushes

This aluminium brush washer has a spiral brush, holder/dryer rack. Wire screen insert keeps sediment on the bottom, away from the brush. Convenient and effective system for brush cleaning. 4" dia. £6.95 ea.



2006 Von Dutch Calendar



A striking 12-month wall calendar featuring many unpublished photos and descriptive captions full of interesting facts and stories.
Limited availability £12.95

Aluminium Brush Box

Managed to get a small supply of these Aluminium Brush Boxes – great for keeping your striping brushes in as they have a spiral band to hold each brush firmly in place so that movement of the box will not damage the long brush hairs.

The box measures 10" x 3.5"



Literally have just half a dozen of these just arrived from US – am looking for more supplies but these are available at £12.95 each

Pit Stops – USA

If you get a chance to be in L.A. this year you must make the effort to visit the **Petersen Museum**. One of the most amazing museums dedicated to the Custom Car.



When we went in 2004, the exhibition was **Stars Cars & Guitars** combining both of Kris's passions. It was an unbelievable collection of spectacular vehicles and musical instruments from every one from Hendrix to Van Halen, BB Kings Lucille etc. Cars owned by Nicholas Cage and the like.



Hendrix Guitar

The Pinstripping on some of these cars was awesome. **The Bruce Meyer Hot Rod Gallery** brings together some of the most publicised and best remembered rods and paint jobs of all time.



Janis Joplin Porche



Invader

Remember Eric Clapton's CD "Riding with the King"? Some of the pics were shot using the Petersen Museum as a backdrop

www.petersen.org

Hints & Tips

#6 Scrolling Basics

Been getting several emails lately regarding scroll work. Obviously the most famous masters of this are **Steve Kafka** and **Steve "Wizard" Chaszeyka**.

So here are a few basic tips to get you on your way. Remember however that this will require even more dedication to practice than the normal striping to make those circles perfect

It is a very different style, using different brushes and a different paint consistency even.

1. Thin your paint a bit more than you would for striping so it's a bit more runny but careful here **NOT WATERY** or it will spread everywhere.
2. Load the brush fully palletting well into the brush hairs.
3. The brush should be used **VERTICALLY**
4. There are 2 ways to hold the brush I'll give you both. The first way involves holding the brush between finger and thumb and placing the little finger in contact with the work surface and away you go.

Or make a fist with the hand that you are **not** using and put it on edge (little finger in contact with surface) and use this as a rest to put the painting hand on.

5. Once you start painting, if you are going round in circles, you **MUST** go around in 1 direction winding the bristles as you go. When you stop lift the brush away from the design and let the bristles relax. Then if you want to change direction you can go the opposite way.

6. As you are moving your brush and pulling or pushing a line, push the brush down whilst it is still moving. This will spread the hairs as it makes greater contact with the surface and create a thicker line in the chosen location. Then by lifting the brush back to the original position you will return to the original line thickness.

By playing with the thick and thin possibilities of the lines you will be able to create leaves and spears used to dramatic effect by such as Kafka & Wizard and of course our own Neil Melliard.



**Acoustic guitar striped for
Pinstripes & Pistons Exhibition**

The Kafka DVD is a great source of knowledge and inspiration. We are waiting to evaluate the 3 Wizard DVD's which are due in any time and will keep you posted.

We supply both the Kafka and Wizard Scroll brushes as well as the original Virus range from Mack so you can experiment extensively with this style.



Virus brushes



Kafka Scroll brushes

Featured Pinstriper "Melissa Gee"

Melissa Gee runs "Lucky Stripe" one of the few UK female strippers; Melissa's work is top class. Now living in Doncaster her range of designs can be seen on leatherwork, clothing and of course some choice vehicles. She runs a steel 32 5 window coupe and has an ongoing project to rebuild a 49 Chevy.



T: what is your background?

MG: Born, lived & worked in Cheshire for 28 years until I met Mark. I left school at 16 & went to university for 5 years & got a degree in Surface Pattern Design. Worked in a studio for 10 years designing fabric for Liberty's in London.

T: how did you get started?

MG: I bought a brush & some paint & it sat on a shelf for 2 years, then we went to Paso Robles a couple of years ago & there was a lady striping there & I thought I could do that! So as soon as we got back I started, Pete Tyas's 40 Merc Convertible was the third car I did.



T: who are your influences?

MG: I am a Hot Rodder first & a stripper Second, that's why you never see me striping at a Rod Show! My influences are my dad who used to race MG's & always had sports cars & my brother who got a muscle car when I was 14, hence I had a Ford Pop when I was 19. Simon Watts really got me interested in striping here in the UK & then I met Steve Kafka & Bobbo Dunn over in the US. Von Dutch for his attitude to striping, my latest tattoo which will cover my back is a tribute to Dutch.

T: what is your favourite kind of job and why?

MG: I love all striping jobs, I have just finished a double bass which was great because I did it in the lounge in the warmth! As for cars anything go's but I do like it when the customer say's "do what you want" and so far so good!

T: what are your ambitions?

MG: I would love to be able to give up my boring day job working in an office & stripe for a living, but I have found so far jobs come in all at once & then I don't get a job for a couple of weeks. Also to get more into the Kustom bike scene & to finally meet Neil (Melliard) instead of sending e-mails!



T: do you have any advice for budding strippers?

MG: Get off your backside & buy a good quality brush & some paint & start striping, don't wait for 2 years like I did! & don't get drunk at Rod Runs, you can't stripe with a hangover (another reason I'm no where to be seen striping at shows)

T: and a last word of wisdom.

MG: I was told by Bobbo Dunn & Butchr never to finish on a dead line & to stripe everything in sight for practice



You can contact Melissa via
mmg@49sleds.freerve.co.uk

Melissa will be holding a workshop at the forthcoming
Pinstripes and Pistons exhibition in Scunthorpe
4th Feb 2006

Pinstripes & Pistons

As previously mentioned this exhibition opens on
the 4th February with workshops by both Melissa
Gee and Kay Stapley.

Originating with an idea that was launched at
the NASC Nationals in Suffolk a few years ago,
the exhibition brings together various
automotive art forms from pinstriping and
airbrushing to the cars themselves in a
celebration of Kustom Kulture.

The exhibition runs until 6th May with April 29th
being a special fun day including a car show, live
music etc. Photography, paintings and
sculpture will also be included.

Another indication that pinstriping is meant to
be an art form for the masses and not the
exclusive territory of those who consider
themselves the elite exponents of the art. The
more we have shows such as this, the more
people who lift a brush and try, or simply admire
our humble efforts, the more pinstriping will
grow and adapt to the UK Kustom Scene

We will be there on opening day with camera in
hand so that we can show you some glimpses of
the show.

The exhibition runs from 4th February – 6th May
20-21 Visual Arts Centre, Church Square,
Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire.
www.northlincs.gov.uk/20-21

Newbie Corner

It's great when we hear back from people who have
been on the courses or just people who are having a go
either self taught or by using one of the many tutorials
that are now around.

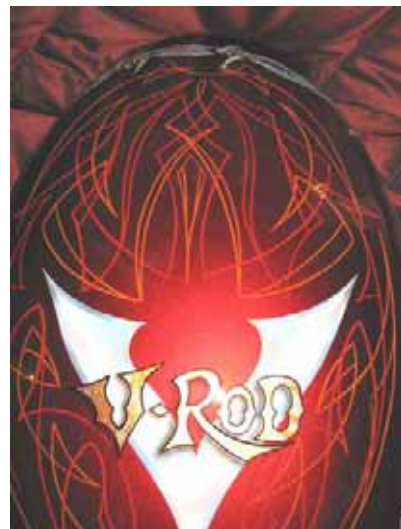
So whenever possible we will be giving space over to
some Newbie Strippers people who have been striping
for less than 2 years. So why not send us some of your
stuff!

First up are **Ken Rothery** and **Sam Gildea**

Sam is from Stockport and attended our beginner's
course in Feb 2005. Within a few weeks she sent us
this image



Ken Rothery is from Reading, in Berkshire and came to
our Crawley course last summer. We received this pic
of his first job in the last few days. He has many more
jobs lined up. Definitely one to watch!



Good work guys

Airbrush Artist 'Beej' Curtis

Beej is located near Salisbury in Wiltshire. Probably one of our better known artists. Not only can he provide awesome graphics for your ride, but he now offers a range of classes for the airbrush enthusiast. Beginner to advanced.



Notable work includes



Full details on his work and courses can be found at

www.organicimage.com

That's all Folks.....

For this months issue anyway, hope you have found it interesting. Keep those photo's coming in

Till next time....
Kris & Lyn

Coming up in the next few issues:

Featured Pinstrippers

Tramp Warner
Simon Watts
Steve Kafka
Kris Johnson

Tootal's experiences in USA
Gooldies Wedding – Vegas Style
Show Reviews & Pics

Plus

We are trying to tack down supplies of
"Smoothie" Fish Eye Eliminator

&

Bobbo Dunn's Little Book of pinstripping

&

Anything else we can think of !