



Windsock World War Centenary Vol.30 No.1, Spring 2014, 32 pages plus covers, illustrated. Published by Albatros Productions Ltd. 10 Long View, Chiltern Park Estate, Berkhamsted, Herts., HP4 1BY, U.K. and available from the publisher at £7.70 plus post and packing.

They say that a new broom sweeps clean, and this can justifiably be said to be the case with Albatros Productions' revamp of their Windsock magazine, in time for the First World War centenary. Moving from a bi-monthly to a quarterly publication, the first issue of their new Windsock World War Centenary is every bit as good as its predecessors, with much to please the eye of both modellers and aircraft enthusiasts. Starting with an excellent close-up photograph of the restored De Havilland 9 currently at the RAF Museum Duxford, there are a wealth of interesting articles plus modeling news to tempt the most jaded palate.

Frontline News brims with the latest news from around the World War One aviation community, whilst Readers' Gallery and Logbook Entries have the very best of models (former, including Gary Sunderland's excellent flying scale AMC D.H.4) and reviews of the latest books and journals, with a flattering review of our own society's November 2013 journal. The second part of 100 Great Warplanes Part 1 – The Rumpler C.III, begun in Vol.29 No.6, concludes the story of this sturdy aircraft, a further two pages of archive photographs and a colour profile being nicely complimented by another page of 1/48 scale line drawings by Mick Davis. Perhaps the tour de force in this issue though is Alan Toelle and Lance Krieg's six page study of French Five-Colour Camouflage in Model Form. The latter brims with interesting thoughts by both authors, all brilliantly illustrated with colour photographs of models as well as original fabric, and a full page of colour profiles showing a Blériot-built SPAD XIII from every angle. The article concludes with a pigment chart showing pigments required to produce the colours used. Not to be outdone, Arvo Vercamer too gets in on the act, his Great War Paint No.12 subject being the Sopwith Tabloid. Aside from the usual excellent double spread of colourful profiles, in this case showing both British and Imperial Russian examples, there are a few archive photographs as well as a rather striking colour image of the Aeroplane Collections' reproduction in full flight. Apart from news of the WWI Aviation Heritage Trust's upcoming project to have a number of flying World War One aircraft at Stowe Maries aerodrome over the next four years, courtesy of the generosity of a number of collectors both here in New Zealand and around the world, the remainder of this particular issue is taken up with information on the latest WW1 aircraft models and accessories available. Perhaps the most impressive of the latter is Wingnut Wings' latest 1/32 scale kit, the AMC D.H.9, which gets a full three page review, complete with colour images, bomb carrier drawings and archive photographs. Overall, the latest revision of the Windsock magazine is a very good start from Albatros. Long may they continue! For more details on this and other Albatros Productions Ltd. publications, visit their web site at www.windsockdatafilespecials.co.uk. Very highly recommended. – **Peter Chapman**