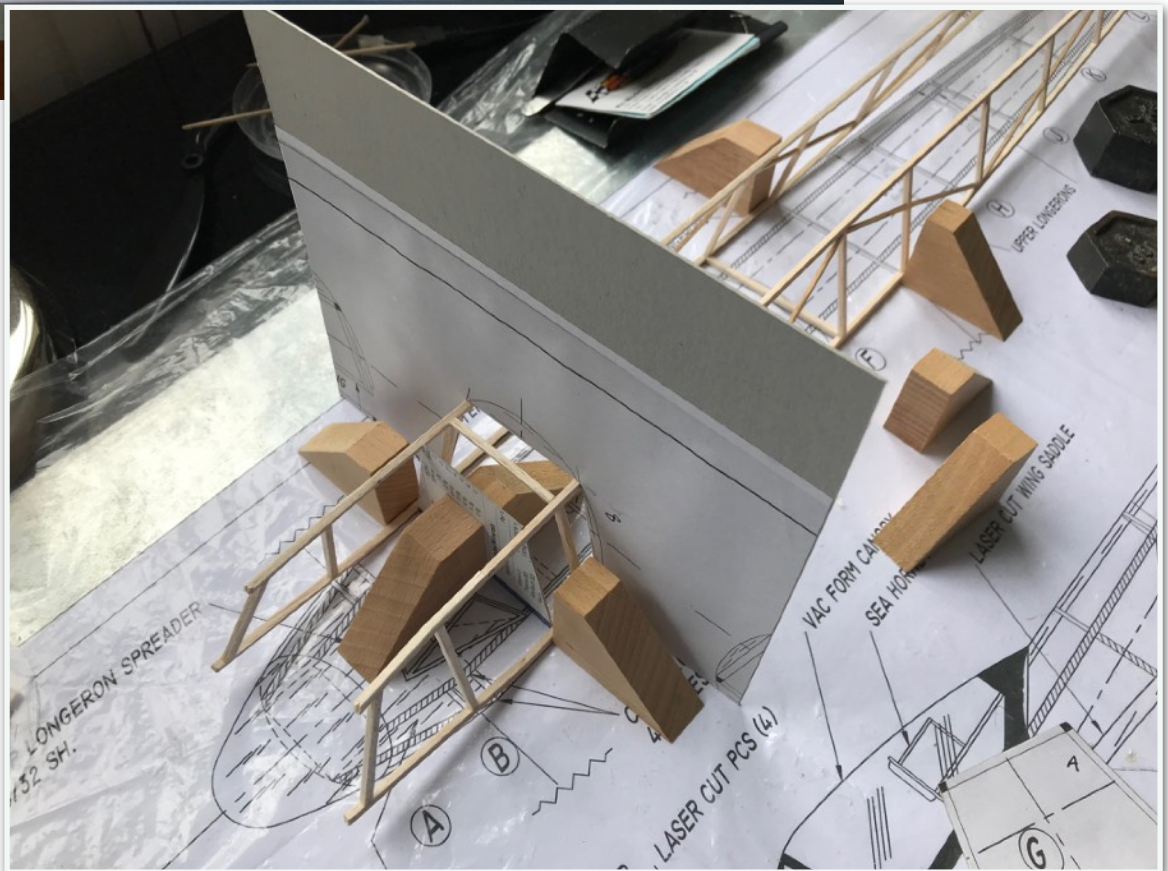
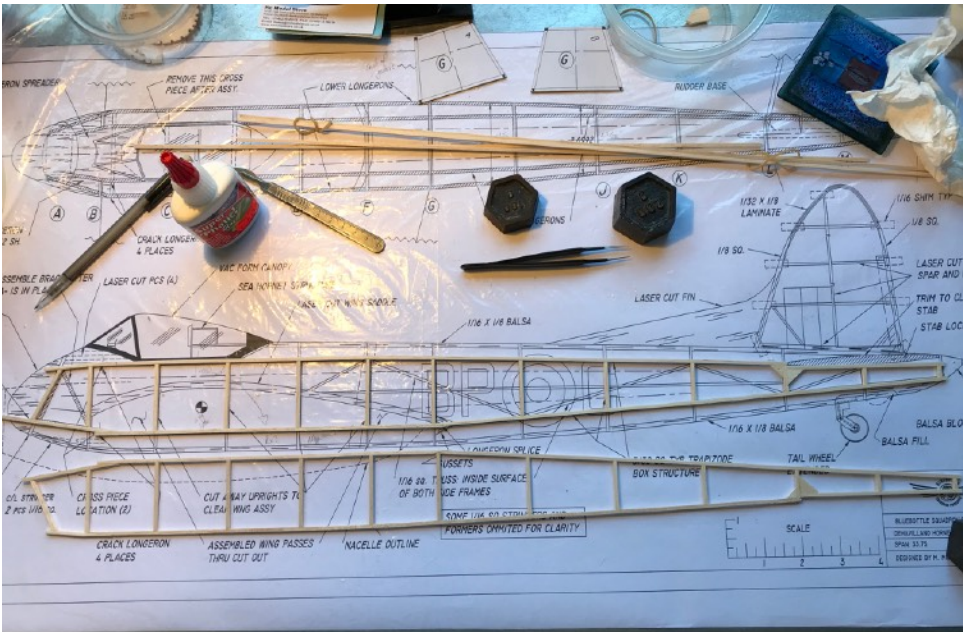
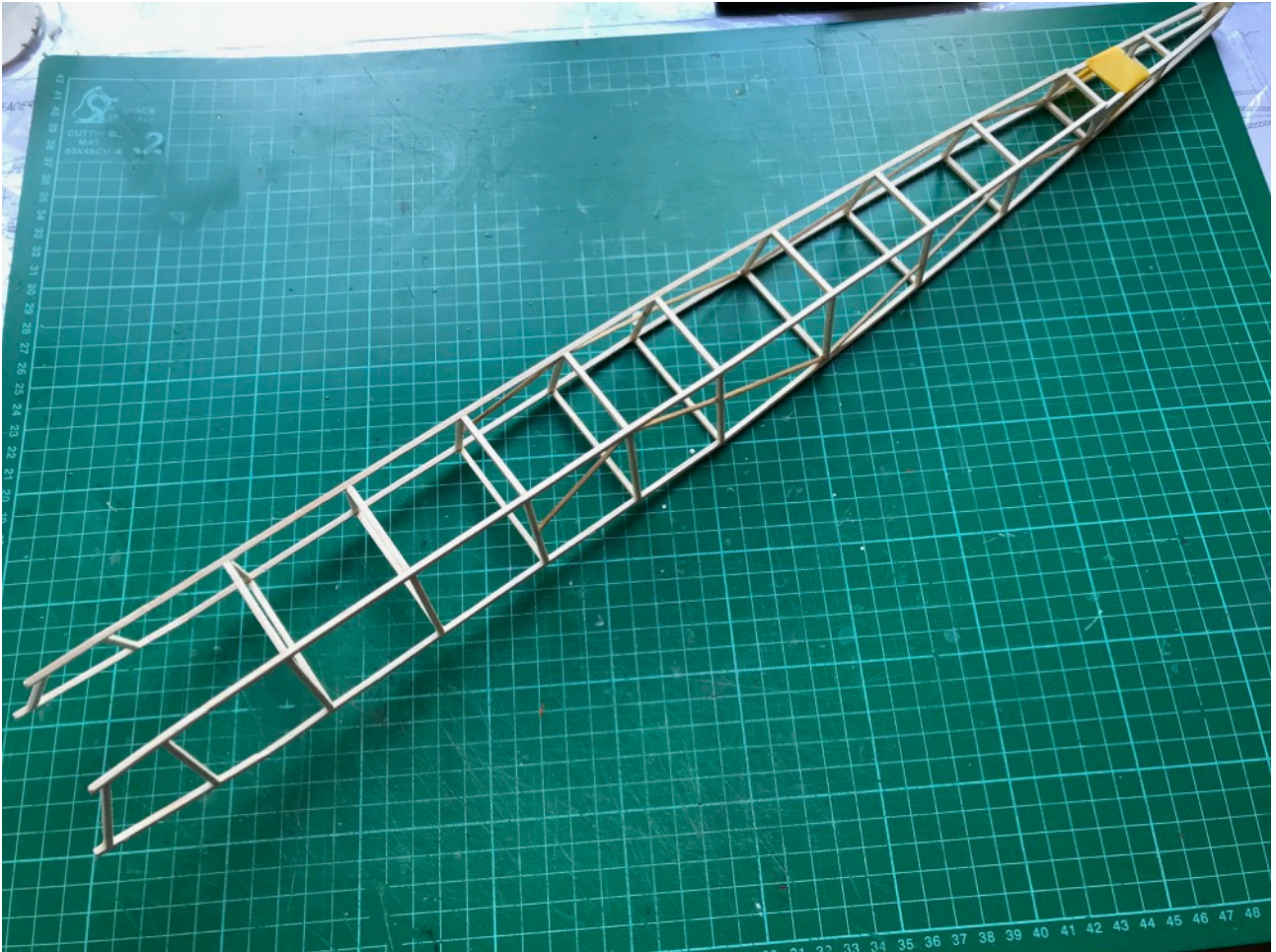


De Havilland Hornet build, part 2

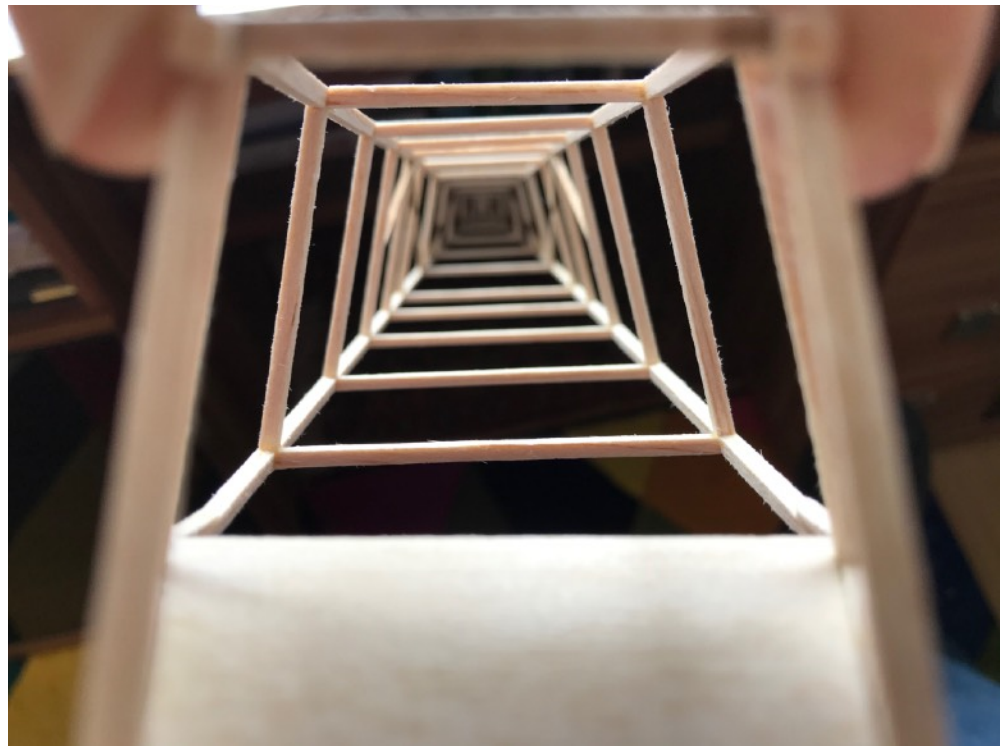
Turns out that all the practice I had bevelling edges to make my West Wings Stealth Fighter, was excellent for the inner frame of this hornet. To be fair, I was warned that there was a lot to this model and templates are provided to keep the trapezium frame section square and true.



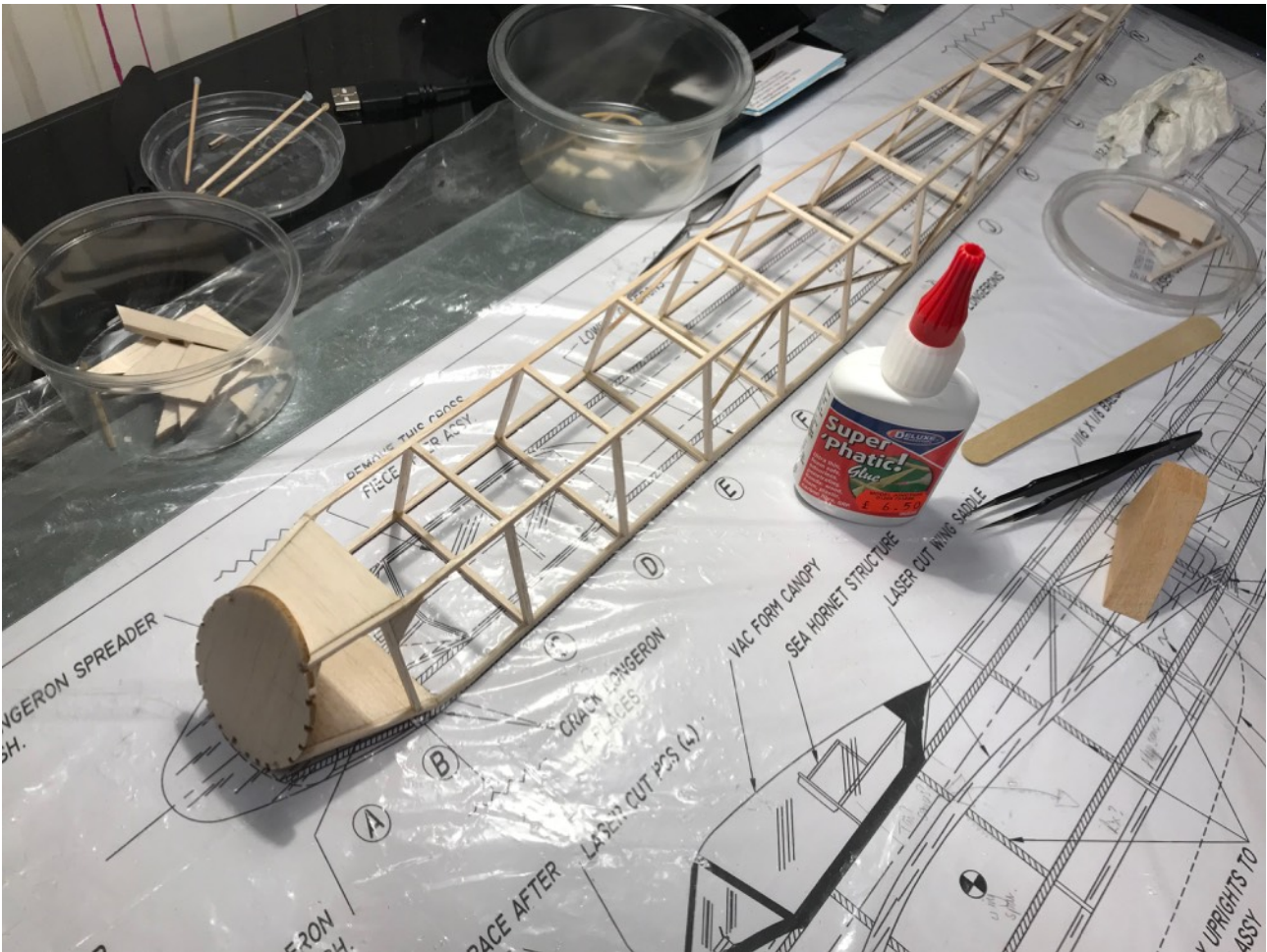
By this stage I was well chuffed with an elegant, symmetrical construction.



So pleased, I pressed on and (per instructions) cracked the longerons behind the 2nd upright to draw in the nose. Still pleased, I took this arty photo. That's when I realised I had introduced a twist.



So, much misery, deliberation, faffing, cutting and jiggling later, I eventually ended up with a straight and true nose, where even the only former in the structure now fitted. Happy days again.



I am still fretting about weight and balance.

Building Notes

The online information I can find is very limited. Whilst the build instructions, supplementary notes and plan are excellent (this is the first plan I have seen which actually addresses curvature foreshortening on a flat view) I decided to keep a record. Mainly I want to describe changes for an rc version, but the notes will include some basic build thoughts too.

- The jig template for fuselage alignment and cutting is not actual size...Ask me how I know. I trimmed the sides of the inner template to get the primary cross piece lengths as well as the bevel angle. It's also invaluable for holding the side frame at the correct angle when gluing the first set of cross pieces.
- The building notes say to fit both upper and lower cross pieces from C-M to one side first, then join the other side. I couldn't see that working. So, I attached the lower cross pieces only from C-M, then attached the second side frame (using the inner jig and 2 outer jigs) before attaching the upper cross pieces from C-M. 2nd picture on page 1 shows this.
- Former A! Or, getting the longerons to the correct position to fit former A and for former A to sit square and true. Good as the plan is, and building the sides one above the other for accuracy, I still contrived to mess this up. I ended up breaking the front off (at the cracked joints), adding corner fillets behind B at the top and shortening both uprights at A & B on one side. Hours and hours of challenge, I even resorted to superglue! Maybe I still haven't mastered cutting sticks to be a snug fit rather than a pressure fit.