



Project Title: **Sopwith Camel Fighter Aircraft**
Student name: **Peter McMullan**
Level: **Year 3 BA(Hons)**
Course: **Information Illustration**
Advisor/Instructor: **Mike Tully**
Principal Investigator: **Mike Tully**
Department/School: **School of Art & Design,,
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Summary description of project:

This project was one of three practical units in this student's third year of the BA(Hons) Information Illustration Course. The publishing medium for the project was print. The student's objective was to produce an information poster on the Sopwith Camel - one of the most successful fighter aircraft of the First World War. Through his research the student was able to familiarize himself with the detailed structure of the Sopwith. Working from plans he produced a detailed model of the wooden structure of the Sopwith. After completing final renders of both the wooden structure and the exterior canvas covering the final result was composited in Photoshop.

Reasons for the nomination:

The student's use of colour, subtle lighting, and texturing achieved a final illustration style that was not only in keeping with the subject matter but managed to replicate traditional airbrush techniques, without the clichéd computer look. The final poster design displays a restrained period feel but is contemporary in its presentation.

Jury Comments:

Beautiful rendering, and Level of Detail! I enjoy soft and subtle colors. This is fitting of the romantic notions of an era gone by. I especially like the detail of how the fabric skin lies over the structure. Overall, a strong presentation.

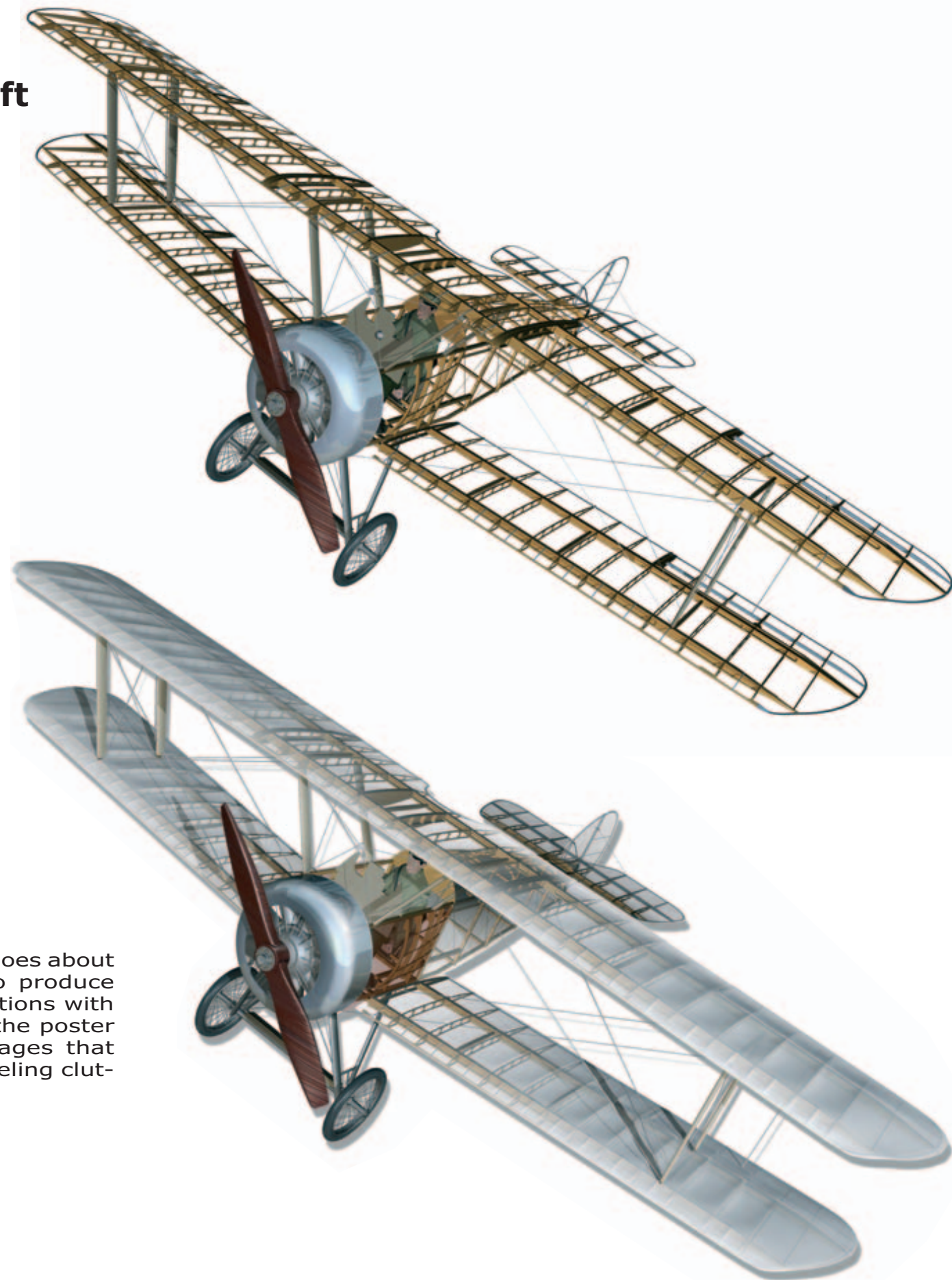
• **Christopher D. Lund**

What set this project apart was the very rare quality of rendering that it was able to achieve — very simple, subtle, and elegant. The visual of the First World War fighter aircraft looked like a carefully crafted hand-drawn illustration and was right on target in achieving its objective, which was to display a restrained period feel in keeping with the subject matter.

• **Lachmi Khemlani**

This poster is impressive in the way it goes about computer modeling and rendering to produce images that really do look like illustrations with a period feel. Quite apart from that, the poster consists of beautifully restrained images that contain a lot of information without feeling cluttered.

• **Thomas Seebohm**



History

The Sopwith Camel, was the most successful fighter plane of WWI. It shot down more enemy aircraft than any other fighter of any of the warring nations. However, because of its tricky handling characteristics, more men lost their lives while learning to fly it than died while using it in combat. The Camel was produced in Great Britain and went into action in June 1917. In the hands of an experienced pilot, it was highly maneuverable and at its best combat altitude of 12,000 feet, it was very difficult to defeat in a dogfight.

