

Necromunda terrain building

By Bimmer and Bubbles

Following on from Gary James's excellent Necromunda terrain article 'The Underhive Workshop' (CJ 23 and Gang War 3) which we found on the Internet (<http://www.altdorf.com/terrigenesis>) we found that the Net is just packed full of terrain building sites.

When we found this site we were amazed and think it is probably one of the best online. Obviously there isn't the room in a single edition of the Journal to show you all of their cool stuff, so here are just some of the highlights...

Introduction

We welcome you to one of the best sources of wargames terrain modelling on the net. Within these pages you will find tips, trick and guides for beginners as well as experienced modellers. If you have any comments/suggestions regarding this site, or if you have a question or simply want to talk about terrain building please feel free to send us an E-mail.

We have been filling this site with terrain guides, inspirational photos and maybe a few jokes. Along with these you will also find the internet's most comprehensive list of tools and materials, complete with pictures and descriptions.

If you have any tips or ideas you would like to share with other terrain builders, or if you have made a complete guide yourself, please e-mail us, and tell us about it, we would be happy to receive this.

Remember, we are always open to any suggestions, tips, tricks, ideas, etc... AND we love 'talking' to people from

around the world who enjoy the hobby, so if you just want a friendly 'conversation', and not necessarily want anything put on the pages, please don't hesitate to contact us!

Send your comments to:
Comments@hive-cons.dk

Materials

The following is a list of some of the material, that we use in our construction work.

Balsa wood

This is a great material. This kind of wood is very light and very soft, so it is easy to cut to the shapes and sizes you want. You can buy sheets, sticks or blocks of balsa, at almost any hobbyshop.

Bottles and Cannisters

These are great for modelling constructions with large water/oil tank-structures. The plastic variety are preferable; they're lighter, easier to cut, and not as dangerous if dropped. Different forms of cannisters, like deodorants or spray-paint cans are also good for this kind of work.

Many bottles of soap or wash

detergent have interestingly shaped caps, which should NEVER be thrown away...



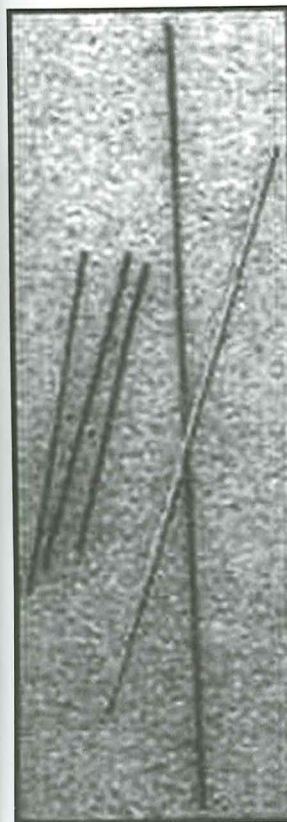
Brass sticks

These also come in different thicknesses and lengths. Also, some types are easier to bend than others. Brass sticks are very good for modelling piping on buildings, or adding railings to vehicles etc.

They come in both solid and hollow varieties. Making them suitable for almost any job, that needs thin pipes.

When cutting brass sticks to the length required, there are two methods:

- With solid sticks, you can simply snap them with a pair of snippers (pliers with a bite!).
- The hollow variety tend to get squashed when using snippers, so instead you can use you craft or hobbyknife. Press the knife steadily against the same spot on the stick, while rolling the stick slowly back and forth, and soon you'll have a perfect (almost) smooth cut.



Buttons

Interestingly shaped coat, dress, or pants buttons (I hope

that they mean trouser buttons here! – Ed) are great for adding a little decoration to your buildings or vehicles. These can often be found in hobbyshops that deal with materials for sewing.

Car Body Mesh

These sheets of aluminum mesh, are normally found at car dealers intended to be used for repairing rust-holes in your car. They have a beautiful diamond-shaped pattern which, combined with the easy way you can cut it to size with a pair of scissors, makes them ideal for making fences or windows.



Cardboard

One of the most useful materials for terrain modelling. Comes with so many different thicknesses and textures. You can use them as the basic material for constructing you buildings, or maybe use small pieces glued on to your structure, to represent reinforced armour or quick repair jobs.

You can by cardboard in hobbyshops, or simply get it from cereal packaging or an equivalent. The backs of

notebooks or covers from old books also work wonderfully.

Chains

Thin chains/necklaces are great for adding detail to your models. Some hobbyshops have big rolls of chain for do-it-yourself necklaces. These can be bought in meters (or yards or whichever measurements are used in your country) at fairly cheap prices. Even though most of the chains/necklaces are already metal-coloured, it's a good idea to paint them with the rest of the model. Otherwise they might look a little too shiny.



Christmas Ornaments

Every Christmas (usually a couple months before) the shops are filled with all kinds of cheap decoration pieces. Many of them are probably so ugly, you'd never put them on your own tree or walls. However, you shouldn't just run through the Christmas section with your eyes closed. You can often find interesting things for your modelling: Strangely shaped plastic plants, or maybe a nice bell for your gothic church/bell tower/etc.

Cork Bark

These were found in a model train shop. They are big chunks of untreated cork bark. They were sold in a big bag for next to nothing. If you are looking for a really easy way to make cliff faces, simply get a few pieces of these, spray them black, and drybrush with gray/white colours, and presto – beautiful craggy rocks.



time by not having to undercoat.

Das Modelling Clay

Such a short non-descriptive name for such a great material. Das is a clay material that can be used directly from the package. It dries in a few hours when in contact with the air. It is a great material for sculpting details like crater ridges, etc., into the bases of your models.

Disks

3.5" disks are a great modelling material. Simply rip open the disk, and you have two sheets of thin plastic, easy to cut into shape. The insides of the disks often have an interesting pattern, making them ideal for wall or floor pieces for your futuristic buildings.

Dried Plants

Many hobbyshops and most florists have dried plants in many varieties. You can often be lucky to find some very interesting shapes. Some of them look so weird, that when put on a base and painted, people are never going to guess they are actually real plants, and not just something from your sick imagination. It is always a good idea to paint the plants you use, because if your don't they'll end up

looking too artificial(!) when compared to the rest of your terrain.

Egg Cartons

Readily available and often with a very interesting texture on the inside. You'll find a couple of guides on these pages that use egg cartons as the basic material.

Flock

Sold in most model shops: the ones dealing in train models usually have the best collections. Flock is artificial grass or moss, usually made from either dyed sawdust or some kind of static fibres, that make a good representation of grass. Also shown on the picture is ordinary sawdust, collected in our own workshop. This is good for representing dust, or if painted it can be used to texture the bases of your creations.

Flower Sticks

Sold at florists or DIY stores, these are simply round sticks of wood, used as support for plants. The sticks are great for making wooden or (if polished) metal girder structures. They are also excellent for poking your partner in the eye, so be careful!

Fibreboard

Also known as hardboard. These are brown boards made of hard pressed fibres. This is excellent for very sturdy bases. If making terrain with an industrial theme, you can try using a hardboard base with the 'wrong' side up. If painted black and dry-brushed with metal colours, this can produce a very nice steel floor structure.

Junk

Always be on the ready if you come across a building site. You'll often find scrapheaps or containers filled with interesting bits and pieces. If you have any family working in construction, ask them to look out for weirdly shaped things, like broken electrical units, empty bottles or containers, etc.



Lego

The new Lego designs contain some very interesting shapes especially the Space and Technics versions. Here you get readily made radar/parabolic dishes, antennas, pipes, etc. Lego also has the added quality of being rather fun to play with, when you need a break from modelling.

Milliput

This is a two-part epoxy putty. When left to dry it forms a hard almost indestructible surface, but while still fresh you can shape it with your knife, a toothpick or a dampened brush.

You can use it to fill gaps when assembling miniatures, or you can use it to model unique structures.



Miniatures

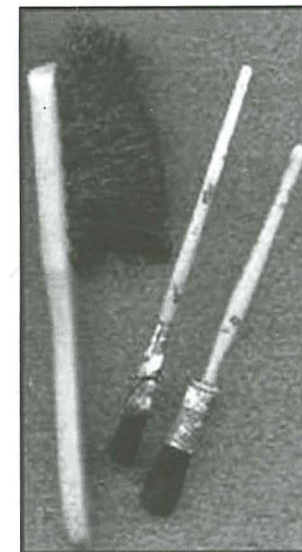
Old miniatures are a great source for model parts (of course, so are new minis, if you don't mind cutting them up). You can get heads to put on poles, for that sinister 'don't mess with us!' look. Pieces of armour or guns also make an excellent addition, when decorating your constructions.

Model kits

Tank or airplane model kits are a great source of bits for adding detail to your buildings. The tank kits are also a great source if scratch-building vehicles for WH40K or GorkaMorka.

Old brushes

NEVER! throw away your brushes, even once they get too worn even for dry-brushing. The hairs can be used on your bases. A big brush is also good for cleaning off the workbench once in a while (if you really feel you have to.)

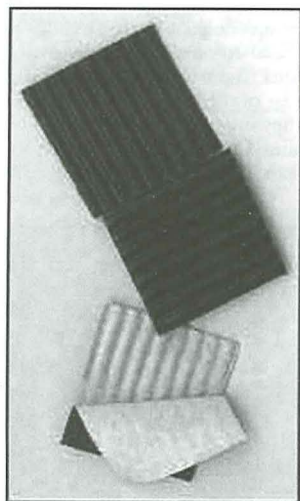


Paint pots

Empty paint pots are great for making small tanks etc. Any kind is usable of course, but in our experience the Citadel pots are the easiest to cut with a modelling knife.

Paper clips

A paper clips is great for pinning when gluing metal parts. It's suitably thin that you can insert it into the arms of miniatures without destroying them. It is also very easy to cut the clip to the desired length with a pair of nippers (pliers with a bite).



Corrugated Cardboard

This kind of cardboard gives a very sturdy material for building walls, etc. The best fact about it is, it doesn't have to cost anything. Simply get a hold of some old cardboard boxes and cut them up.

If you are able to get one side of the cardboard off, revealing the corrugated part, you have an excellent material for some corrugated iron construction. Some hobbyshops sell corrugated cardboard with the corrugated part exposed. These usually come in different colours, so if you buy a sheet of black, you can save

Pink Blue Foam

Pink foam and Blue foam are two variants of a special high-density polystyrene, used for isolation in floors/ceilings. Unlike ordinary polystyrene it is not made up of big round lumps that peel when cut or sanded. This kind of foam is excellent for making cactii, rocks, etc. since it is fairly easy to cut with a knife, and you can sand it.

its best to use PVA. glue. If gluing Polystyrene to a base, you can use a hot-glue-gun which is a lot faster.

NEVER use superglue, as it will simply melt the polystyrene.



Sand & stones

Different grades of sand are ideal for detailing bases or mixing with textured paint. You can get some fine sand at a beach or from the nearest kindergarten sandbox. If you sift the beach sand, you already have the next grade, usually made up of very small stones and bits of shells.

Cat-litter is great for a rubble effect (*please do make sure it's clean first! - Ed*). Florists often have small stones used for decorating plant pots. Train model shops, often have bags of cork-bits, that when painted look exactly like rocks.

Toy Cars

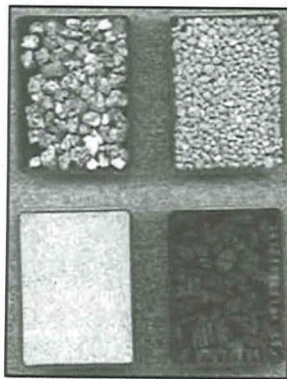
Toy cars are great for customised vehicles.

Alternatively, you can rip them apart, either to get interesting bits for detailing, or for making terrain with crashed vehicles.

Take a look at the local toy stores. You can often find cheap imitations of the current popular 'television-toys'. These may be unacceptable to the kids, but they are great for your terrain building purposes !

Cardboard & plastic Tubes

When making any kind of industrial theme terrain, you'll always want to have some kind of huge storage tanks. This is the time when you'll be happy that you didn't throw out the empty tube last time you ate Pringles or Smarties, or used the last piece of toilet/kitchen paper. Poster tubes are also great for making storage tanks, since these tend to be quite sturdy.



Brass & plastic Tubing

Small pieces of brass tubing is great for making pipelines for your industrial terrain. You can also use plastic tubing (i.e. from toys or table calculator-paper rolls).

Varnish

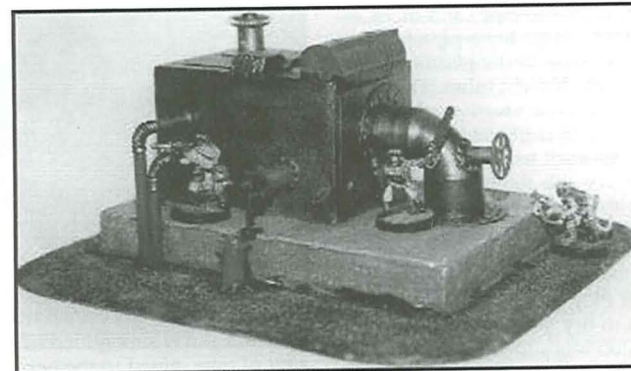
A bucket of gloss varnish comes in handy when you want to make pools of water, sludge or similar kinds of fluids. Simply pour it in the pool, in layers - letting each layer dry before applying the next. You can add paint or inks to the individual layers, to colour up the pool.

Pump Station

Inspiration for this terrain piece came from the 'Eavy Metal team's similar but totally different creation. This piece of terrain is great fun to make, and as with most other terrain it takes a little time to finish. Being a bit massive, this terrain piece makes good cover. The concrete block on the base is just high enough

TOOLS & MATERIALS...

- Fibreboard
- Polystyrene or equivalent
- Polyfilla/plaster
- Hot glue gun
- Drinking-straws
- A pair of nippers
- Brass tube (bent)
- Plastic tube
- Sandpaper
- PVA glue or hot glue gun
- Holepunch
- Knife
- Thick card
- callipers
- A lot of plastic bits and thingies
- Brushes and paint



for miniatures to peek over, and shoot enemy models while standing in cover. The many pipes also makes good cover for miniatures, giving your enemy a hard time trying to shoot your models. This particular piece of terrain should not prove a difficulty for any modeller, and is pretty straight forward.

1. The first thing to do is to make the concrete slab. This I made from polystyrene about 15mm thick, glued to the fibreboard base with my gluegun. This was treated with Polyfilla, mixed just below the point of 'runny', then it was applied with a stiff-haired brush, leaving small lines making it look like a concrete slab.

2. The next step is to make the large box or pump if you will. This was done out of a polystyrene base block, covered with some thick card with a ruffled surface, giving it a great look when dry-brushed. This was glued to the concrete slab, again using my glue gun.

3. When the pump has been glued onto the concrete slab, you may want to make the circular plates with rivets, which I used around the

various pipes. First take your pair of knife callipers (if you do not have such a tool, you can just use a knife or a pair of scissors). It is recommended that you use some sort of template to mark up the circumference, so you can have a nice and round circle instead of a square one. It is hard to say how large a circle you should have, but just make up your mind about how large the rivets will be, and make room for them. When the circle(s) have been cut out, glue them to the concrete slab/pump, being very careful to place them right! These can be glued on using any type of glue.

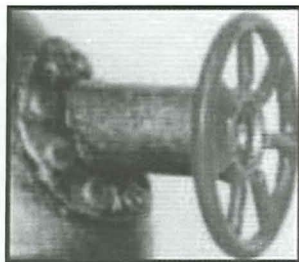


4. Once this is done, you can

start on the pipes and tubes. I used a large brass pipe for the bent pipe, and a plastic tube for the broken tubes. The broken parts were made using a pair of snippers, snipping off very small triangles, and afterwards the remaining pieces were bent outwards. The black goo coming out of the broken pipe was made the slow way of adding one blob of P.V.A. glue, and the leaving it to dry. When dry another blob was added and so on. Very slow procedure, and it could be been done quicker with a hot glue gun.



5. The green pipes are made out of drinking straws which can be bent at one point of the straw (the metallic coloured parts). The top ends of the straws were glued into gunpowder shells, collected from a construction site, where they were used with a nail gun. If you do find any of these, make sure that all the shells have been used, or they may explode on impact. The tubes were superglued onto the base and into the shells, which were superglued to the pump.



6. The crank wheel was found in an old plastic kit of a WWII tank and it was superglued to a bit of tube, glued to the bent brass tube.

7. The base itself was covered with watered down P.V.A. glue using an old brush. Then it was covered with static grass, which was laid in a thick layer for about half an hour, after which the excess flock was removed (and stuffed back into the bag). When completely dry it was brushed with a big brush to get the last bits a unglued grass off.

8. The pump was painted all black and dry-brushed with metallic colours, finished off with some orange ink giving a rusty look here and there. The concrete slab was painted with a mix of black, white and a little blue, and dry-brushed with more white. The base was painted all black too, and was dry-brushed with white.

Barricades

These barriers are just like the ones you get from the Necromunda box, only more 3D, as the extra iron plating, bullet holes and such are glued onto them or cut out of them. These are quite easy to make, and you can make them any size you want.

The thick card I used for these barriers came from the back of a block of paper. It is about

3/4 mm thick and just perfect.

1. So take your card and draw your barricades. The square piece of card on the pictures is for three barricades in three different lengths. The small pieces of paper holds the ends of the barricades.

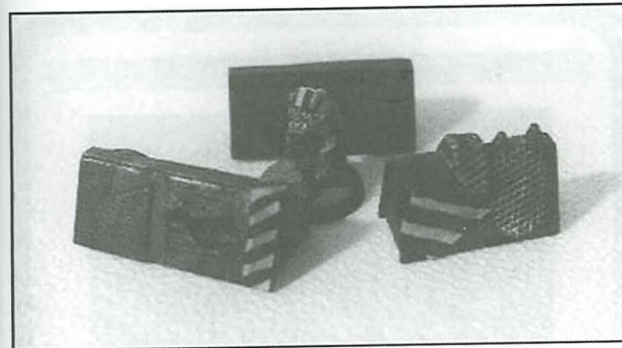
2. Now take your scissors and cut out the barricades. Then take your hobbyknife and carefully cut out a triangle along the lines in the middle of the barricades. As you will be cutting out a triangle on the surface of a 3/4 mm piece of card, you will need to be careful not to cut all the way through. I would advise you to practice a little on a spare piece of card first. The picture should resemble a magnified view of the cardboard.

3. With the triangular slits cut out, bend the card and hold the end-pieces on to the card, and glue the pieces together using your hot glue gun on the inside. This should result in something resembling the picture.

4. Now to get some of that 3D into it, add some scrap pieces of cardboard. Perhaps scratch the surface of the cardboard with your hobby knife, to resemble a lot of iron-plates

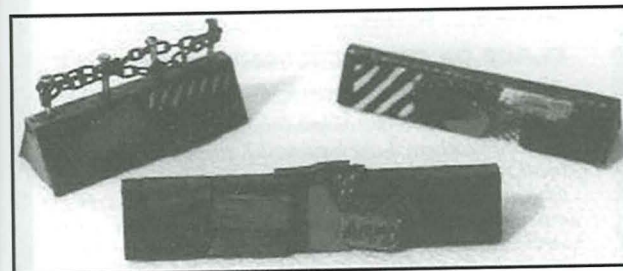
TOOLS & MATERIALS...

- Thin sticks of balsa
- Hobbyknife
- Superglue
- Brushes and paint
- (3-5 mm.) Corrugated cardboard
- Pins/needles with (and maybe a small flat heads hand-drill)



banged together. As you can see, I cut a little hole in one of the barriers, and added some car body mesh on the inside to patch it up. I could also have used small pieces of balsa wood, to patch it up (this was done on another

pieces of card you glued onto it in different colours, making it look like someone picked up a handy piece of scrap metal, and patched up the barrier with it. There you go... barricades quick, easy and painless.

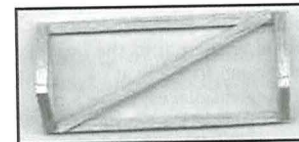


barrier). The barrier in the back of the picture got a piece of car body mesh glued onto it, and a pair of bolts on top of that. A roll of mesh ready to be rolled out is lying next to it. The right-most barrier has a piece of track from the Gorkamorka Gubbins bag glued onto it.

The only thing remaining is the paint job. Painting the whole thing black and dry-brushing with metal colours gives a nice look. Then add some chestnut ink, orange ink or drybrush with Blood Angels Orange to get a nice rusty tinge. Paint some of the scrap

to represent a barricade which has been quickly hammered together by Underhivers expecting an attack. It's made of a wooden frame, and some huge Corrugated Iron plates – possibly torn from a shed-roof or something.

1. First you decide on the design and size you want the frame to be. The trick here is to make it look like something quickly hammered together, but at the same time it should be sturdy enough to be useable in a game.

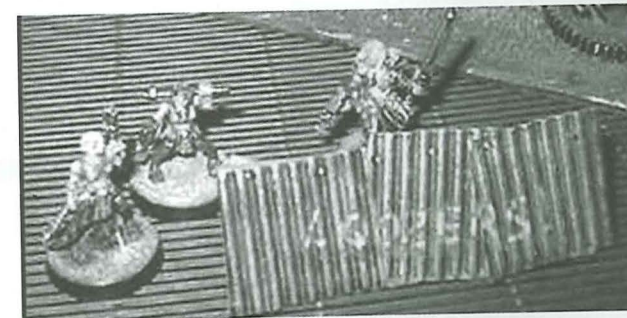


2. Once you've cut your balsa sticks to the sizes of your frame, glue them together, and leave to dry. Take the corrugated cardboard and cut out the pieces you'll need. If possible, you should remove the back of the cardboard, so you only have the corrugated part. If you don't have black corrugated cardboard, it's a good idea to undercoat it now.

3. Now it's only a matter of painting the parts before gluing. Drybrush the cardboard with varying metal colours, and perhaps add

Corrugated Iron Barriers

This is another very simple modelling project. It is made



some orange for rust, or greenish colours to represent algae or something. I chose to paint the frame to look like wood, but you could also paint it in different colours to underline the fact that this is something made in a hurry from whatever scrap was lying around.

4. Glue the 'metal' plates to your frame. Try tilting some of them a little, so it doesn't look too neat. Now you take the pins and push them through the cardboard and frame. You may find it easier to snip the pins to the right size before pushing them into the model. Just push in a few at strategical places, there's no need to make a whole rivet pattern all the way around (unless you really want to, of course).

5. Finally you can paint on some graffiti or make a little battle damage like scratches (carved with a sharp pointed knife) or bullet holes (made with a sharp pointed knife or a hand-drill).

There you have it... Quick and easy barricades, that actually look stunning and very realistic. These babies can be made in about fifteen minutes, and in a great variety. Besides the paint job you can also choose different materials. Maybe the guys who built your barricade didn't have corrugated iron, and used flat iron or steel plates instead. Maybe they simply made it of wood.

Have a go at it. Hand-to-hand combat is fun, but we can all feel the need for a few good sniper positions!

Don't forget to tune in next issue when Bimmer and Bubbles (keep taking

the medication lads!) show us how to make a water tank tower, toxic waste containers and terrain pieces to use for

your loot counters in Necromunda. So, if you're out there and you're modelling, let us know all about it - Ed.

HIVE CONS INC. EMPLOYEE



NAME Bimmer

NO, REAL NAME Kim C Christensen

PLACE OF ORIGIN Sweden

CREATURE DESCRIPTION:

I am 27 years old the oldest (and wisest) in a series of three brothers. I work as an I.T. instructor at the local spend business college. After finishing my education in computer science I worked for nearly one and a half years in the I.T. department of a local steel-shipbuilding company. Later I worked for two and a half years as an IT coordinator for a large ferry-company, before deciding to try my hand at teaching.

In my spare time, I mostly play around with my computer, coding HTML, programming in Delphi, playing with Photoshop and of course playing a lot of games. When not fooling around with the 'puter, I beat my brothers at badminton or teach Bubbles, that he is only king of Necromunda in his own head. I'm 179 cm tall (about 5'10"), have blue eyes, and live to annoy Bubbles.

E-MAIL bimmer@hive-cons.dk

HIVE CONS INC. EMPLOYEE



NAME Bubbles

NO, REAL NAME Rune F. Christensen

PLACE OF ORIGIN Sweden

CREATURE DESCRIPTION:

I am 20 years of age, born on June 16th 1978, and I am the youngest of three brothers. I am very fond of computers which is why I spend a lot of time playing PC games, coding HTML and making graphics in Photoshop. I will be studying computer science from January 1999 and the next 2 years from that. I have been working at the local McDonalds restaurant for a little more than a year where I am soon to be a crew trainer. The job is great fun and pays well, but it is hard work alright. In my spare time I go flying my model airplanes, or perhaps I should say I go crashing my airplanes. I play Necromunda and Gorkamorka as often as I can (and that is not very often) and beat my brothers at it. What else is there to say? Oh, yes... I am 185cm tall (about 6'2"), blue eyes, and my blood type is chocolate.

E-MAIL bubbles@hive-cons.dk

If you have access to the net, why not check out the incredible Hive Constructors Inc. website at:

<http://www.hive-cons.dk.html>

Da Roolz Boyz

Have you got a rules query? Do you want to know if we still have classic Citadel miniatures available? If the answer to both these questions is 'yes!' or if you want to discuss any aspect of the Games Workshop hobby you should contact the Roolz Boyz, today!

Da Roolz Boyz
Games Workshop
Ltd,
Willow Road,
Lenton,
Nottingham, NG7
2WS

Telephone: 0115-
91 40 000

Lines are open
6am-midnight
7 days a week

