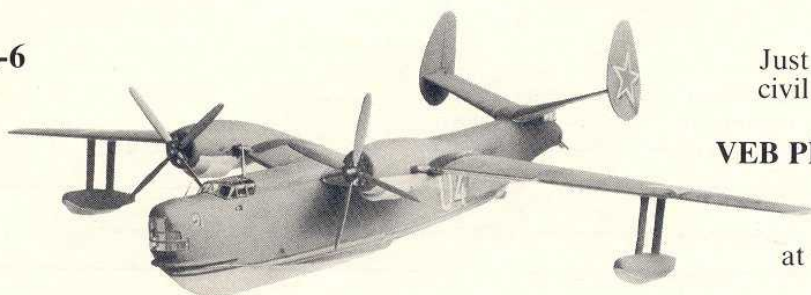


BERIEV Be-6

Scale 1:72
Span 460 mm

Rec. retail
about £2.10



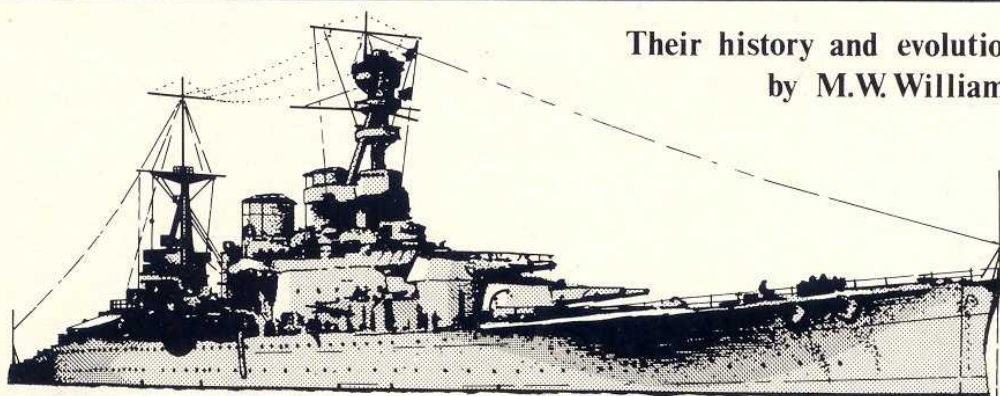
Just one of the
civil & military

VEB PLASTICART

range of kits
at top value prices

SCALE MODEL DISTRIBUTIONS,
Telephone Cwmbran (06333) 71983 & 67387

Unit 50, Springvale Estate, Cwmbran, Gwent, Wales
(Sole UK Distributors)



Their history and evolution
by M.W. Williams.

British Battlecruisers Part 2

Lion

Completion of this ship was delayed, as her initial layout was altered when trials brought to light the error of placing the spotting top abaft the forward funnel. She was returned to her builders to have her after funnels raised and to re-position the spotting top, and thereafter such modifications were carried out to her sisters while building was still in progress.

Commissioned as the flagship of the 1st CS in June 1912, later termed the 1st BCS, from December 1913 she became the flagship of the rapidly growing battlecruiser fleet. In this role she was later crippled at the Dogger Bank action and had to be towed home to Rosyth by the *Indomitable*; repairs took four months.

At the Battle of Jutland, fought late on 31 May 1916, she was repeatedly hit and just avoided the fate of three of her kind, when a hit on Q turret almost caused her loss. Repaired again, she remained the flagship of the BC fleet until 1919 when she became the flagship of the 1st BCS until 1923, and was then sold for scrapping in 1924.

Princes Royal

Commissioned in November 1912 the

Princes Royal entered the 1st BCS in January 1913. She became flagship of the squadron on the outbreak of war, and had a very active career, being present at all the main fleet actions of the First World War. She survived and was present at the Heligoland Bight skirmish, the Dogger Bank and Jutland, only receiving damage at the later engagement. She lost her flagship status to the *Lion* in 1919, serving as a private ship in the 1st BCS until she was sold for scrapping in 1922.

Queen Mary

A very near sistership of the *Lion* and *Princes Royal*, the *Queen Mary* was commissioned into the 1st BCS in September 1913, where she was to remain for her entire career, seeing action among others at the Heligoland Bight. She has been generally regarded as the best gunnery ship of the battlecruiser fleet, but in her final battle at Jutland she was subjected to the accurate fire of two German battlecruisers, the *Seydlitz* and *Derfflinger*, for at least 15 minutes because of a mix-up in the distribution of British return fire. The result was that she was repeatedly hit and eventually received a fatal charge that set off a detonation in her amidships magazine. This resulted in her rapidly sinking and

much loss of life.

Tiger

It was planned to build one sister ship, the *Leopard*, but this was cancelled in 1914. The *Tiger* joined the 1st BCS in November 1914, but her working up period was rushed and unfinished, proved by her poor performance at the Dogger Bank when her gunnery and general contribution to the battle was well below the normally high standards of the battlecruiser fleet. By the time of Jutland these faults had been corrected and she became an effective fleet unit. In the battle although heavily hit she still remained in the line and fought the enemy as well as the rest of the fleet. Repairs from this engagement lasted until early July, so she saw no further action in the war. But the *Tiger* had a far longer life than her contemporaries, for she was retained after the war when so many of her sisters were scrapped, and formed part of the BCS of the Atlantic Fleet from 1919 until 1924. She then served as a gunnery training ship until 1929, after which she was returned to the BCS and stayed there until 1931, when due to naval limitation treaties, she had to go, and was eventually sold for scrapping in 1932.

BRITISH BATTLECRUISERS 2

By MW Williams.

LION class

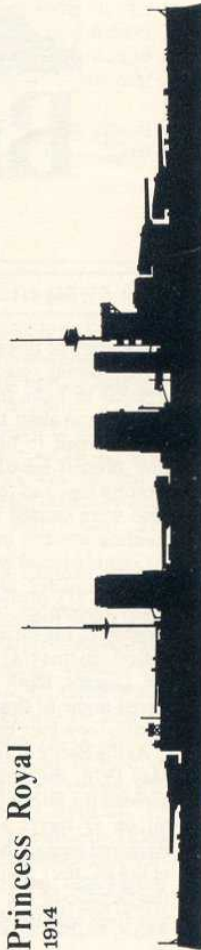
Lion
1912



Lion
1918



Princess Royal
1914



laid down	29 9 09		4 5 10
completed	4 6 12		14 11 12
fate		→ scrapped 24	scrapped 23
deep load, tons	29,270	_____	
max knots	27.6	_____	28.5
belt, inches	9	_____	
main guns	8 13.5"	_____	
sec. guns	16 4"	15 4"	16 4"
torp. tubes	2 21"	_____	
aircraft		2	
feet overall	700	_____	

Queen Mary
1916

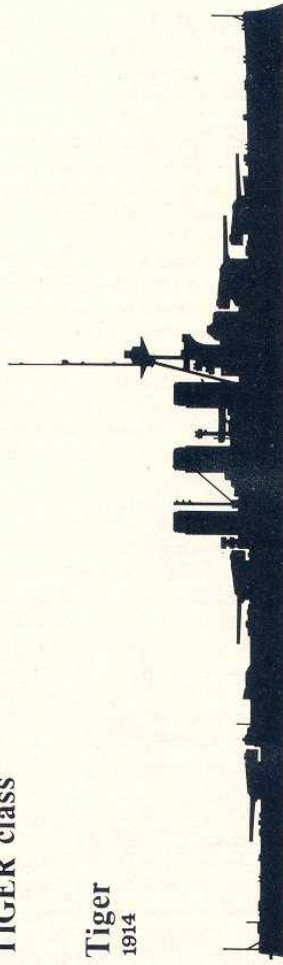


6 3 11
4 9 13
lost 31 5 16
30,480
28.2

703.5

TIGER class

Tiger
1914



20 6 12
3 10 14

32,800

29.0

9

8 13.5"

16 6"

4 21"

704

one sister ship, Leopard, postponed 1914.

Tiger
1924



→ scrapped 32

35,160

1