

Ivatt & BR Tank Swing Link Pony Truck Detailing

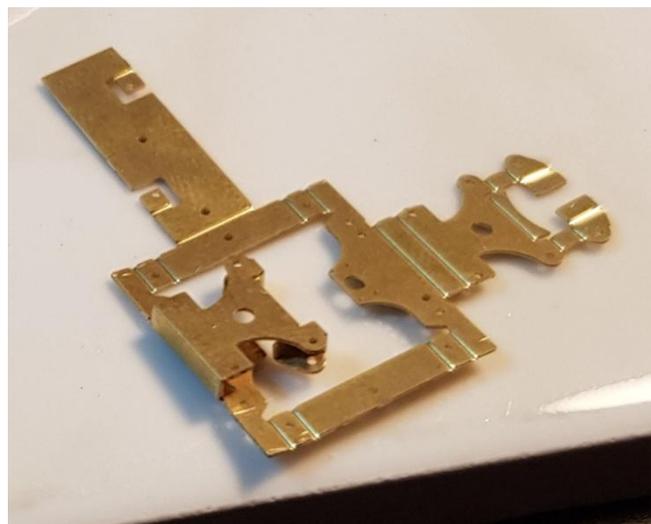
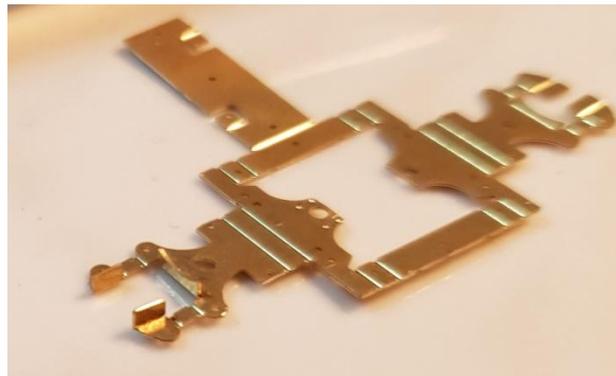
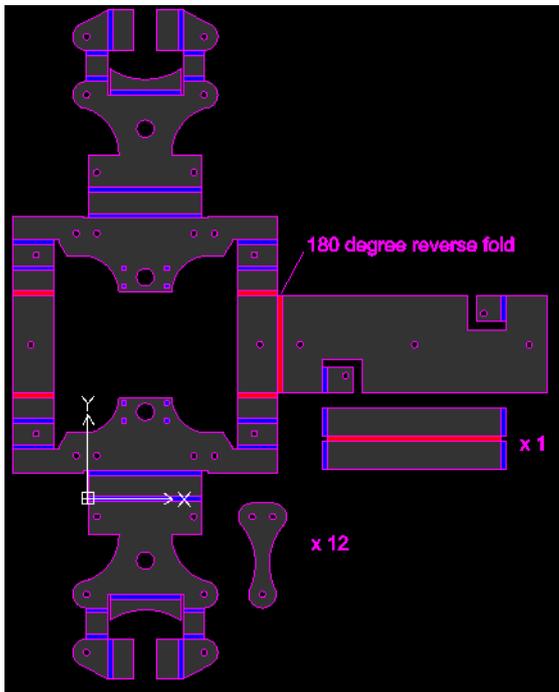
Ivatt 2-6-2 tank locomotives used swing link pony trucks at the front, and a spring controlled pony on the rear. The BR standard 2 (& standard 3) tank swapped them end for end.

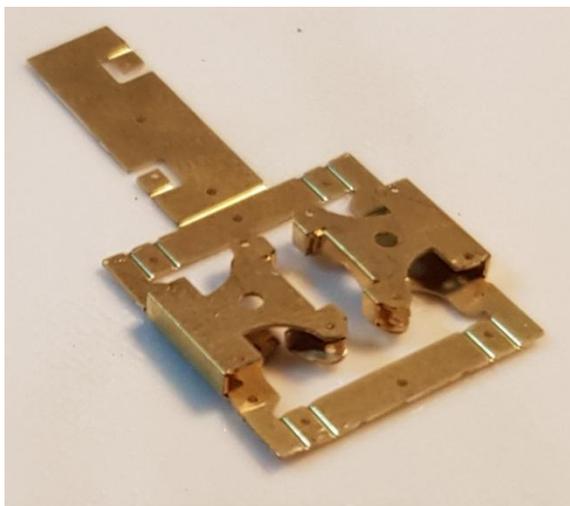
Brassmasters designed the spring controlled pony for their Ivatt class 4 chassis kit (and sell this as a separate item) – and this etch is designed to use that as the basis, but could also be used to detail those from other manufacturers.

All folds aside from 1 are 90 degrees with the half etch on the inside. 1 is a 180 degree fold and for this the half etch is on the outside of the bend.

Required 1.5mm tube, 0.8mm rod & 0.31mm rod, alongside a pony frame.

So start the build, fold up the frame with a series of 90 degree bends as per the photo sequence, and fold up the whole assembly through the middle of itself.





Unlike the photo sequence from here, I would (with hindsight) add the swing link arms next. These are laminated from 3 layers, and it is easier to fit into the frames if the 3 layers are soldered together first – just don't fill the holes (or open them out again).

These are then pinned into the frame with 0.31mm wire through the three holes, and soldered in place.



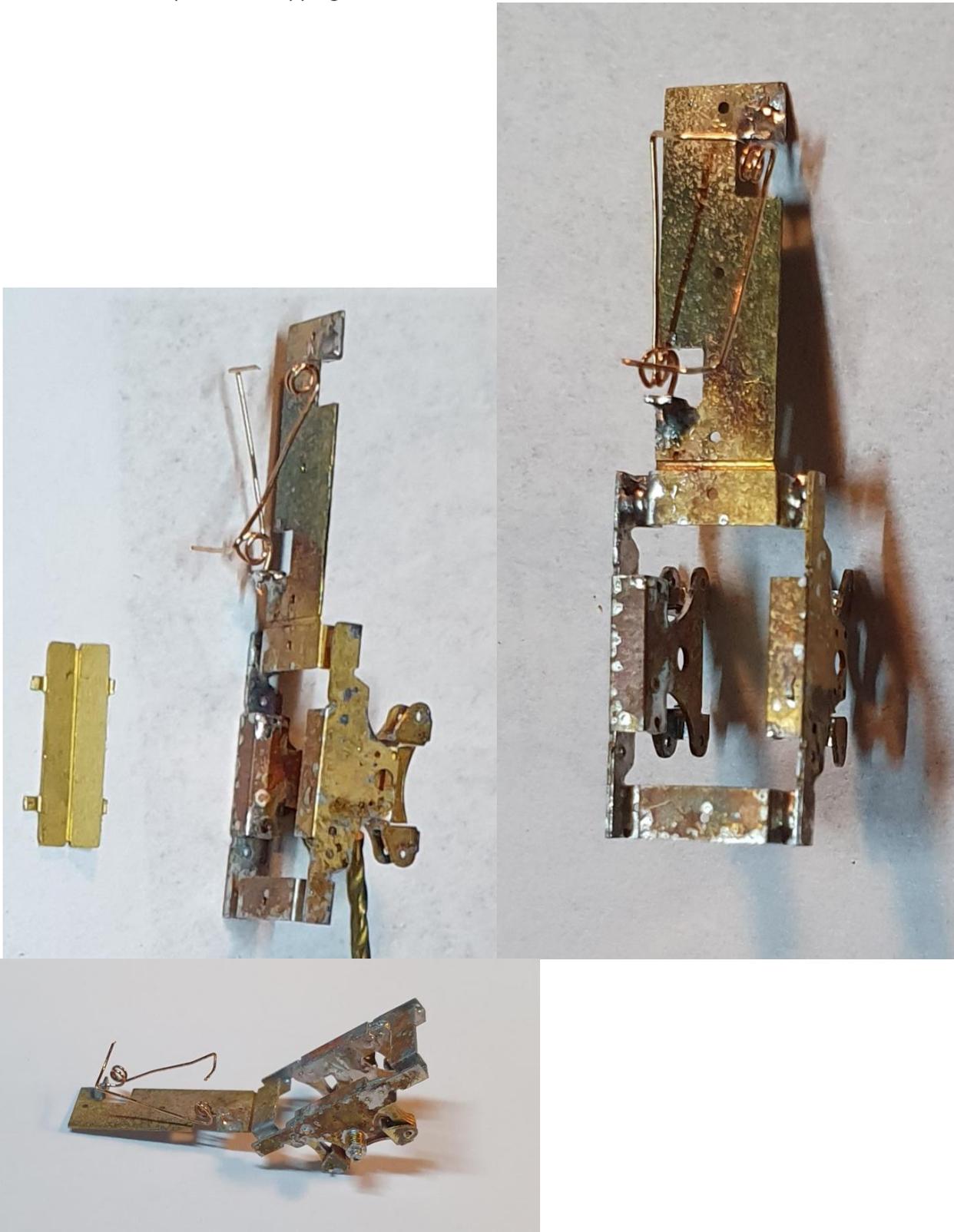
It is also worth adding the the central swing pivot rod at this stage, from 1.5mm OD 1mm ID tube, with a 0.8mm tube and thin rod slightly proud of the end of this – or just a 0.8mm rod inside the 1.5mm tube (see later photos in the sequence, and also the Brassmasters instructions).

Presuming a sprung pony is being built, this can be done as per Dave Holt's method detailed on the clag site and shown in the Brassmasters instructions:

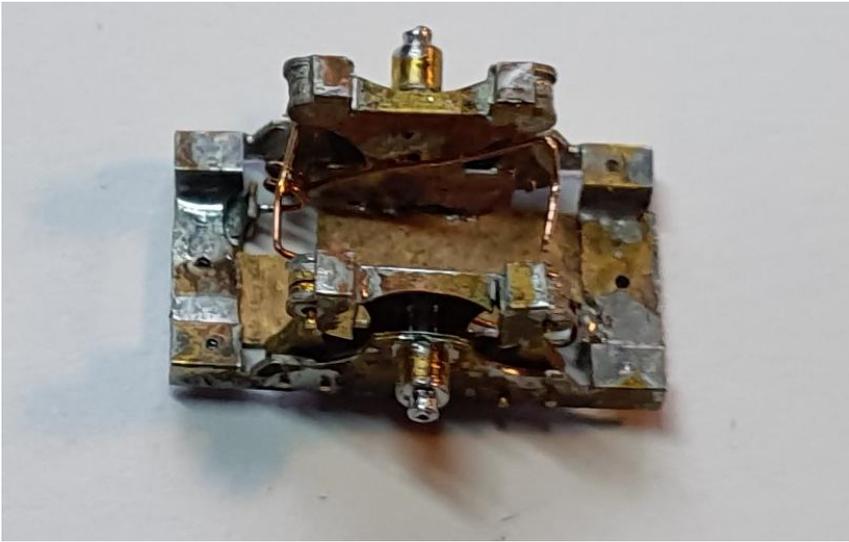
<http://www.clag.org.uk/comet-pony.html>

<http://www.brassmasters.co.uk/Downloads/Instructions%20Ivatt%20Pony%20Truck.pdf>

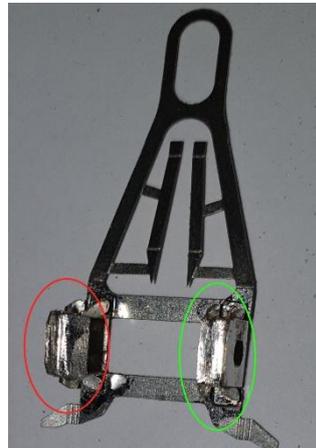
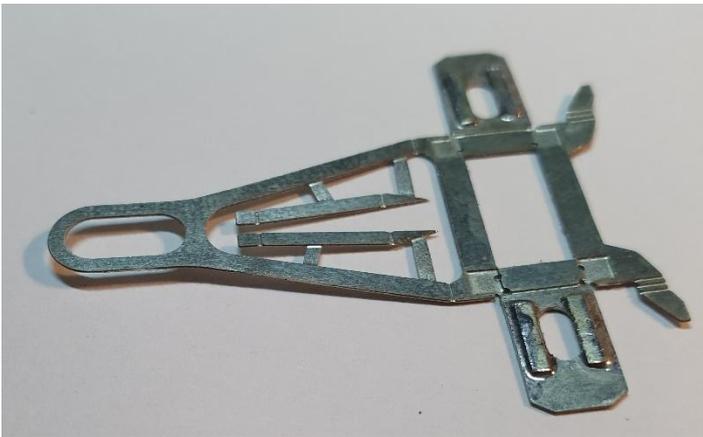
However, as another option I have included 2 fold down tabs on the top section of this pony, and a jig to help bend up 2 balanced springs. This is made from 33AWG phosphor bronze wire. The coil (2 complete turns, plus a bit) was turned around a 1mm drill bit. The jig can be bent slightly, and the end of the spring wire given a V shape to help it sit over the axle and prevent it slipping off the side.



The top can then be folded over, to complete this part of the assembly.



As per the Brassmasters instructions, presuming the coil spring method is being used rather than hornblocks – thickening strips need adding to the axle guides. When these are folded up and the hornguides are added, the top of the horns are wider on the inner face and need filing back to be flush with the sides of the spring guides (this step will only be required if using the spring attachment points).



Once the assembly is fitted to the hornguides, the rest of build should be carried out as per the Brassmasters instructions.

