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tinplate

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CONTENTS IN THIS ISSUE...

03 NEWS
The latest news from the world of collecting.

09 WHAT WAS THE YEAR?
Alwyn Brice looks back on a specific year and asks "what's the year?"

10 SHEDS AND YING YINGS
Mark Nolan traces the inexorable rise of the Class 66 locomotive.

12 A TIME TO BUILD
Alwyn Brice looks at when manufacturing in the former Axis powers came under Allied supervision.

16 WHAT'S IN YOUR LOFT?
Libby Parfitt looks at the toy story behind Pixar...

18 10-MINUTE TOY EXPERT
All you need to know about the big names in collecting.

20 DISPLAYING DIECASTS
Rick Wilson showcases ways to enhance your collection.

24 GLADIATORS READY?
Gerald Edwards looks back at a staple of Saturday night TV viewing in the 1990s...

26 BEST BOX DIECAST
Alwyn Brice takes a look at a little-known range of diecast miniatures.

28 FROM THE SAME CASTING
David Boxall looks at the many variations of the Commer commercial and emergency vehicles

30 EBAYS
Our guide to what's been selling well on eBay this month.

32 PRICE GUIDE
Find out what your toys could be worth in our auction round-up.

41 TOY STORIES
Ed Karswell remembers some old bangers...

42 OBSOLETE OZ
What gems has Oz uncovered this month on his travels?

45 EVENT GUIDE
Plan your diary for the month ahead.

46 AUCTIONEER LISTING
Sale rooms from across the country, all in one place!

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■ AUCTION REVIEW



Colourful robot from KO was in working order – and came with his box intact.

Bank or... bust!

Collectables come in all shapes and sizes – not to mention degrees of taste. If your particular bent is horror, then the recent British Toy Auctions sale would have proved a magnet, for it sold a slightly gruesome resin bust of Regan from *The Exorcist* film. At 11 inches high, it was marked 'Exorcist S Kenrick 98' on the back of the neck. In very good condition, it fetched £200, plus premium.

Rather more genteel fare was typified by the unusual Rupert the Bear 'Muscular Dystrophy' Charity Collection Box. The hard plastic/vinyl box with detachable base stood approximately 97cms in height. The box evidenced signs of use, but appeared to be in relatively good condition and would have benefited from cleaning. It achieved a hammer price of £160.



You'd have needed a brave face to have bid on this Regan bust.



An unusual Rupert Bear artefact was the charity collection box; there can't be many around!

The Hot Toys *Batman* Classic TV Series 1/6 scale Batman figure with accessories attracted much interest. The box had been opened but everything remained in mint condition, which contributed to a top bid of £150.

From Character Options, the *Doctor Who* Dalek Emperor Davros and Destroyed Imperial Dalek set was rather out of the ordinary. Mint in their box, the contents were still attached to their internal packaging. It sold for £150 plus premium.

And another for sci-fi fans: a boxed, battery-operated tinplate High Wheel Robot from KO. Standing 22cm tall, he showed some corrosion marks on his legs but appeared to be in good condition overall, and came with a good box. In working order, the robot made £160. ■



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■ AUCTION REVIEW

Atomic fission at Milestone

According to Miles King, co-owner of Milestone Auctions, interest in Japanese tinplate has never been greater. This was attested to in the house's last event, when an example of the futuristic, brightly-coloured Yonezawa Atom Racer whizzed off to make US\$25,740, almost doubling its upper pre-sale estimate. At 26 inches long, this particular model is revered by the collecting fraternity.

German tinplate wasn't ignored, either: a Lehmann 7 inch clockwork taxi-cab

The future is here (as was): Yonezawa's iconic Atom Racer was the star of the show.



in mustard with a black roof retained its driver and even the fabric flag on the bonnet: it realised US\$3,198.

If you know the name Gordon Bennet, then you'll know a bit about the American playboy who hit the headlines with his exploits in yachts, hot-air balloons and motor racing. German company

Issmayer produced a Bennet tinplate racing car; and at the sale an example, complete with working clockwork motor and passenger, reached US\$10,148.

Finally, for Disney fans, there was a Dean's rag Mickey Mouse soft doll on a metal scooter. Standing 8 inches tall, it was bid to US\$5,658. ■

■ AUCTION REVIEW

Water fun!

The Fairylite vintage Gerry Anderson Stingray 100 Shot Repeater Water Pistol had a very conservative estimate of £20-£40 when it was put up for auction at Vectis recently. Although it was expected to achieve a much higher price than this, even they were surprised by the end result! With a number of bids on the book before the auction even started, the lot opened at £400.... And closed at an impressive £500 (including buyers premium).

The pistol, still in original packaging with an intact header card was highly sought after due to its rarity and condition. Gerry Anderson and Stingray items are always popular and these original condition items can be hard to find. ■



■ AUCTION REVIEW

Pre-production rules!

You have to feel sorry for Matchbox collectors. Just as someone thinks they have completed their collection, out of the woodwork come some pre-production examples...

This was the case at the Vectis sale, which saw £4,000 the top bid for a Superfast Ford Capri in lemon yellow with a

black bonnet hiding a purple engine. A mighty £2,700 won the Superfast 45a Ford Group 6 with a rare, flat, non-metallic green body with circular racing number 7 nose and door labels. The 7b Hairy Hustler in purple with a white interior and the brick red 5a Lotus Europa both tipped the scales at £1,100, while a Mazda RX500 in silver

with a lime green engine cover made £750. Cheaper fare was the metallic gold Dodge Charger with an ivory interior (£620) and the Lamborghini Marzal in emerald green with a bare metal base, which was bid to £520.

Yesteryears also received some attention: a Y10 1906 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost with a silvery blue body bonnet and



Looking a bit spartan without its full complement of paint, the Y10 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost.

chassis with dark red seats and grille, and running on unplated 12-spoke wheels, realised £580. ■

NEW RELEASES
THIS MONTH

ESVAL MODELS 1959 DE SOTO FIREFLITE SPORTSMAN 4-DOOR HARDTOP - BLUE/WHITE

Scale: 1/43 Price: £90 Ref: EMUS43052A

Lovely model of this spectacularly-styled American sedan. The Fireflite was De Soto's top version of its mid-range cars, and replicated here beautifully.

» www.esvalmodels.com



CORGİ MODEL CLUB ROVER 2000 TC WITH 'TAKE-OFF WHEELS' AND 'GOLDEN JACKS'

Scale: 1/46 Price: £39.99 Ref: 275

Introduced in 1968 this was only the second 'take-off wheels' model. With an attractive yellow-tinted sun roof and miniature spare wheel. Lovely job!

» www.corgimodelclub.com



■ AUCTION REVIEW

Bonanza at Bertioia

The last Bertioia sale turned over US\$2.5m, the auction comprising entirely antique toys and banks from the private collection of John and Adrienne Haley.

A fleet of majestic German-made ships was a highlight. One of them, a circa 1902-1907 Marklin clockwork Battleship France, was an imposing 25 inch long craft with an exaggerated superstructure, numerous cannon, lifeboats and masts; it even retained its original Marklin wooden box. This would have cost a fortune when new; and a century later, it didn't disappoint, realising US\$78,000. It was accompanied by a number of lead sailor figures.

It was a good day for a circa-1890s Ernst Plank steam and sail ship. All original, with a hand-painted hull and matching lifeboats, the toy could be powered by a live steam engine with a single oscillating cylinder, or employed as a sailing boat. As was typical of Plank's early ships, it came with a wooden carrying case designed to protect the toy's fragile



Good old British advertising on this German-made Bing omnibus ensured a healthy return for the vendor.

sails and rigging. It sold for US\$48,000.

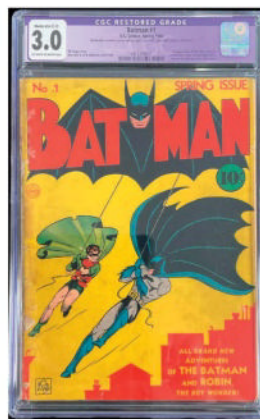
In the automotive category, an early Bing 8 inch hand-painted tin clockwork lorry, in red, yellow and gold, appeared to be unplayed with, so was in near mint condition. This closed on US\$21,600 against an estimate of US\$6,000-\$8,000. Several dozen bidders chased the colourful Bing deluxe double-decker clockwork omnibus. Every one of its angles was emblazoned with eye-catching lithographed advertisements for "Heinz Spaghetti With Tomato Sauce," "Dunlop Tyres," "Bird's Custard Powder" or "The Daily Sketch". Measuring 12 inches long, the bus sported lead wheels with rubber tyres and even retained its original passenger figures. Against an estimate of US\$6,000-\$8,000, it halted at US\$15,600. ■

■ AUCTION REVIEW

It's Superman verses Batman

Two of the most sought-after comics from the renowned American publisher DC have been offered for the first time in the UK, with a sale recently held at Excalibur Auctions.

The first comic was Superman #1, currently ranked #3 on Overstreet's list of the Top 100 Golden Age comics, making it a holy grail in the world of comic collecting. The Golden Age, spanning from 1938 to 1956, marked the birth of the superhero genre, introducing iconic characters like Superman, Batman, Captain America, and Wonder Woman. Superman's debut in 1938 is often cited as the beginning of this era, as his immense popularity paved the way for comics to become a major publishing force, prompting rival companies to create their own superheroes. Superman #1 was released in 1939, just one year after his first appearance in Action Comics #1, underscoring his rapid rise to fame. This comic sold for an impressive £97,890, more than four times its



Batman #1 considered the 5th most important Golden Age comic. Starting price £5,000



The rare and historically important Superman #1 never before sold in the UK.

starting price of £20,000!

The second rare comic was Batman #1, also from the Golden Age, and currently ranked as

the 5th most important comic from that period. First appearing in Detective Comics #27 in 1939, this issue marks Batman's first solo comic, featuring the debut of two of his most famous adversaries, The Joker and Catwoman. It includes four stories: "The Joker," "The Giants of Dr. Hugo Strange," "The Cat," and "The Joker Returns," believed to be written by Bill Finger (1914-1974), a key figure in the creation of Batman. The cover, illustrated by Bob Kane (1915-1998), the co-creator of Batman, is a classic. Dating from 1940, this comic is graded 3.0 (Restored C-3) by CGC and sold for £31,375, over five times its starting price of £5,000.

Jonathan Torode, Excalibur's auctioneer, commented, "We are thrilled to offer these two pieces of exceptionally rare comic history! At Excalibur Auctions, we regularly handle rare items, but when something as extraordinary as this comes in, we are excited not just for ourselves but for our customers too." ■

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■ AUCTION PREVIEW



James Bond Corgi car in silver, with ejector seat.

Heroes & Villains in Canterbury

An Aladdin's Cave of rare film and TV collectibles – from *Star Wars* to *Dr Who* and many others – is to be auctioned online over the weekend of August 30-31 at The Canterbury Auction Galleries.

Thousands of items from an anonymous collector are up for grabs and the sheer scale and variety of the toys, figures, posters and models is mind blowing – with something for every pocket.

There are Daleks and posable figures from early *Dr Who*; characters, beasts and crafts from *Star Wars* in all sizes and by all manufacturers; Bond guns, figures and cars of all kinds; Batman goodies, *Captain Scarlet*, *Thunderbirds*, *ET* and *Pocahontas* toys – you



Vintage Boba Fett Star Wars figure by Kenner

name it, it's in the Heroes and Villains sale.

"It's a fantastic chance to boost just about every collection. We've never seen such a vast array of collectibles, nearly all in their original packaging," said Dave Parker, Managing Director of the auction house. "This will

be a special, focused sale separate from our usual fine arts and antiques as we're seeing great demand for these 20th century 'next generation' classics."

To prove his point, a recent sale of boxed, collectible Barbie dolls at the Canterbury Auction Galleries achieved more than £12,000 – double the original estimate.

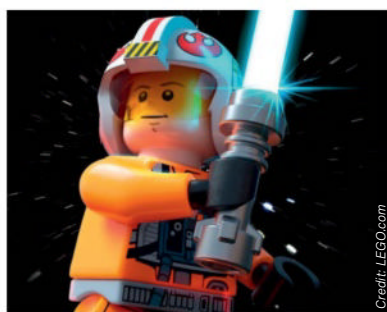
Even lesser-known items from shows such as *X-Files*, *Robin Hood*, *Stingray*, *Joe 90*, *Assassin's Creed* and *Disney* figures are in the upcoming sale.

So if it's time you added Bond's Walther PPK to your collection or snaffled a life-size StormTrooper mask, check out the full catalogue and estimated prices at www.thecanterburyauctiongalleries.com. ■

COLLECTORS GAZETTE

Coming up NEXT MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2024 ISSUE



Credit: LEGO.com

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*Editorial contents may be subject to change where necessary

NEW RELEASES THIS MONTH



TEKNO
SCANIA NEXT GEN R770 6X4
WITH MEILLER 2-AXLE TIPPING TRAILER 'SAXER'
Scale: 1/50 Price: €179.00 Ref: 85517

This colourful release from Tekno of a Scania Next Gen R770 paired with a Meiller 2-axle tipping trailer is finished in the Saxer Transport AG company colours.

» www.tekno.nl

MATRIX MODELS SAAB 900 CD FINLANDA

Scale: 1/43 Price: £118.99 Ref: GMX41801-051

Matrix's Smorgasbord of resin delights is added to with this tribute to Saab's lesser known 900 Finlanda, a model produced with the usual high standards and finish.

» www.matrixscalemodels.nl



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What was the year?

Step back in time, with **Alwyn Brice**.

Civil unrest rocked the UK during this year, when militants blocked the entrances to oil refineries in protest against high fuel prices. The ensuing panic buying by motorists led to nationwide petrol shortages. Other transport news concerned a rail accident in Hatfield, when a Great North Eastern Railway InterCity 225 train derailed south of Hatfield station, killing four people in the process.

Code breakers were also in the news this year: a World War II Enigma machine was stolen from the Bletchley Park Museum. Why, one wonders...

As for politics, David Trimble won the leadership election of the Ulster Unionist Party whilst in Wales, at the Ceredigion by-election, Simon Thomas retained the seat for Plaid Cymru.

As for law and order, the notorious M25 killer and ex-Brinks Mat heist member, Kenneth Noye, was sentenced to life imprisonment; and Dr. Harold Shipman was similarly sentenced, after being found guilty of murdering fifteen patients in Greater Manchester.

In the world of sport, the Rugby League World Club Challenge was won by Melbourne Storm, who defeated St. Helens 44-6 at the JJB Stadium in Wigan.

It was a sad time for those involved in the arts, though. Best-selling author Dame Barbara Cartland died at the age of 98 at her home near Hatfield, Hertfordshire; and the celebrated actor, Sir John Gielgud, passed away aged 94 at his home at Wooton Underwood, Buckinghamshire.

On the world map, Belgium and the Netherlands jointly hosted the UEFA Euro football tournament, which was won by France. Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft stepped aside as Chief Executive of the company and Steve Ballmer was promoted from company President to his position.

At the 57th Golden Globe Awards, Denzil Washington took Best Actor award, with Hilary Swank winning Best Actress. *American Beauty* won the Best Drama Motion Picture, while *Toy Story 2* took the honours for Best Musical or Comedy Motion Picture.

As always, space was newsworthy: this year saw NEAR Shoemaker enter orbit around asteroid 433 Eros, making it the first ever spacecraft to orbit an asteroid.

In Japan, PlayStation 2 was released, with other releases in the West following later in the year. Still in Japan, five people were killed in a collision involving two Tokyo metro trains.

And what were people watching this year? The film *Gladiator*, starring Joaquin Phoenix and Russell Crowe, and directed by Ridley Scott, premiered in Los Angeles; while for the low brows, there was *Kevin and Perry go Large*. The best selling single was by *Bob The Builder* (*Can we fix it?*). And toys? The Razor Scooter was the must-have transport, selling 6m units in just six months. Game of the year was "Who wants to be a millionaire?" while for girls, Toy of the Year was announced as Baby Annabel. There was even a Most Elusive Toy category, which was scooped by Tracy Island.

So... what was the year? **CG**



ABOVE

Thunderbirds were gone – finding Tracy Island was a headache for many parents.

RIGHT

Dolls were always in vogue. This is Baby Annabel.

BELOW RIGHT

Wrestling figures won the Boy's Toy award during this year.

BELOW

Have wheels, will travel: the Razor Scooter (but be careful how you fold it!).



Sheds and *Ying Yings*

Mark Nolan traces the inexorable rise of the Class 66 and finds out how an American design became the UK's most dominant locomotive.



Variety is the spice of life'. Dating from 1785, that proverb could well be the oldest cliché in circulation. It comes from a poem called 'The Task' by William Cowper, and you can have that as one of your five-a-day cultural references. It's so corny, no-one uses it any more, unless they're being ironic. Mind you, as it's survived for nearly 240 years and still makes sense, it could be due for a comeback.

But it's so apt; imagine if we only had one model of car, or one type of tree. Imagine if all music was mid-century easy listening, or seagulls were the only birds, or clothes were only available in blue. (Actually, that last one's true in my case.)

In the quest for greater efficiency (ie lower costs), homogenisation, the process of making things uniform or similar, has been a trend on the railways for the last fifty years. When in

their heyday, railway companies thought nothing of building a small number of specialised locomotives to perform specific duties, like pushing bigger trains up hills. Ditto wagons, with a huge number of designs to cater for different freight types. After the war, nationalisation and the creation of British Railways gave rise to new approaches. Standardisation was the buzzword, and the short-lived new steam engines were even known as 'standard class'. Even then, there were still quite a few designs, with different power characteristics to cater for various requirements.

Despite the simplification and rationalisation (and that's a lot of words ending in 'ation') of the following British Rail period, there was still a relatively wide variety of locos and rolling stock running on our railways. These locos had almost all been designed and built in the UK to fairly conservative specifications.

PRIVATISATION AND TYPE APPROVAL

The opening up of BR to private operators, which started in the mid 1980s, was another seismic shift for our railways. Whether dealing with passengers or freight, the new companies inherited a motley assortment of ageing locomotives and rolling stock. In respect of freight, BR had built a number of powerful freight locos (classes 56, 58 and 60). However there was not enough motive power for the new operators, who had to resort to using older locos in multiple. Hence it wasn't unusual to see two or more Class 37s on the longer trains. Whilst great for train spotters and fans of vintage traction, this of course meant higher costs, not just for fuel, but for servicing, and wear on the track. Let's not even mention the extra carbon generated by old diesels working in pairs!

As well as being heavy on fuel, the reliability of 1960s traction was also well short of what the new

ABOVE
Bachmann DB Cargo Class 66.

operating companies expected and needed. One operator, Foster Yeoman, found that up to 40% of its services were arriving late.

Privatisation also formalised rigorous type approval, which made it much more tortuous and expensive to introduce new designs. A whole new lexicon of boring words like compliance, risk management and interoperability entered the industry. As a result, once accepted, a new design became the easy choice for other operating companies looking to upgrade their fleets. Which is how we ended up with one locomotive completely dominating the UK rail industry.

ENTER THE CLASS 59

The march towards the Universal Locomotive really starts with the Class 59. The United States had started introducing diesel locomotives in large numbers



ABOVE

Hattons Original EWS Class 66. For simplicity combined with attractive colouring, the tasteful, restrained and simple red and yellow EWS livery has to be the benchmark.



ABOVE

Graham Farish N gauge Class 66 from 2006.



ABOVE

Hattons Sarah Class 66 in GBRf livery.



ABOVE

Hornby As One We Can in Ocean Network Express (ONE) branded magenta.



ABOVE

Hornby R30070 Class 59 59101 'Village of Whatley' in Hanson Aggregates livery. This was first modelled by Lima in 1994 and later included in Hornby's Railroad range.

from the 1930s, so they were at least 20 years ahead of the UK with regard to dieselisation.

Quarry firm Foster Yeoman had been operating an American EMD SW1001 shunter at one of their quarries since 1980. They were impressed by the power and reliability of the loco, so

they invited EMD to tender for the delivery of six mainline locomotives to use instead of those supplied by British Rail.

EMD is Electro-Motive Diesel, a company founded in 1922 and purchased by General Motors in 1930. The company is now owned by Caterpillar through

their wholly owned subsidiary, Progress Rail,

EMD built fifteen Class 59 Co-Co diesel-electric locomotives between 1985 and 1995, for three different UK rail operators. They were the first privately-owned diesel locomotives and the first US-made diesel locomotives to operate on British mainline railways. As such, it was important that EMD got it right. Their determination paid off. The locos were highly engineered, powerful and reliable. They arrived ready built from Canada and just worked 'out of the box'. All are still operating now 30 years later.

You could almost describe the 59 as a Trojan Horse. This success led directly to the Class 66 which would use the Class 59 body profile but with different components. It would be far more numerous, with greater flexibility and built down to a price.

THE EWS INTERVENTION

Wisconsin Central Ltd, a railroad subsidiary of Canadian National, moved firmly into UK freight operations when they purchased as many ex-BR freight subsidiaries as they could. This was somewhat to the government's annoyance, as they had been aiming for a competitive market, not a monopoly.

The consortium, which became EWS (English Welsh and Scottish Railways) placed a £375 million order for 250 Class 66 diesel-electric locomotives with EMD in May 1996. EWS had inherited some 1600 locos from BR with an average age of over 30 years. This huge order was to make almost the entire ex BR fleet redundant. EWS even went as far as scrapping serviceable locomotives rather than making them available for sale to potential competitors, a practice which the Rail Regulator stepped in to prevent.

Further class 66 orders were placed by Freightliner, GB Railfreight, and Direct Rail Services. The Class 66 had a total production run of 480 units over a span of 16 years until the design could no longer meet the stringent stage 3b emissions regulations.

UNPOPULARITY

The Class 66 has divided rail enthusiasts. As well as superseding many popular classes of loco, the monotony of only seeing one type of loco has made them unpopular. This is an emotional reaction; they don't sound interesting or make clouds of exhaust. Their subdued

engine note has led to them being nicknamed 'ying yings'. If you want to know what they sound like, just repeat ying ying ying for as long as you can stand it. Even less complimentary is their 'shed' monitor, derived from their front profile which is reminiscent of an apex garden shed.

Drivers are not particularly enamoured with their steeds either. In order to get UK type approval, EMD laid out the cabs to be as close to British Rail practice as possible. In other words, cramped, noisy, draughty and lacking air conditioning.

Boring they may be, but the 66s do come in an incredible variety of liveries. It's ironic that their corrugated sides don't easily lend themselves to paint jobs and logos, whether in full scale or model guise. For simplicity combined with attractive colouring, the tasteful, restrained and simple red and yellow EWS livery has to be the benchmark.

MANY MODELS

With two identical body shells (59 and 66) and the huge numbers of 66s in daily operation, it's no surprise that there is an extensive choice of models and colour schemes from a wide range of manufacturers.

Lima produced a ready-to-run model until 2004 when the company ceased trading. Hornby Railways acquired the moulds and launched its first version of the Class 59 in 2006. It was upgraded with a better mechanism and featured the later arrangement of cab front lights. Since 2017 they have produced a basic representation of the prototype as part of their Railroad range in a variety of liveries.

Bachmann provides highly detailed Class 66 models with accurate liveries and features. They are well-regarded for their quality and realism.

A brand under Bachmann, Graham Farish produces N gauge models. Their Class 66 offerings are known for maintaining a high level of detail despite the smaller size. N gauge is also catered for by Revolution Trains' Class 59.

Dapol produces both OO gauge and N gauge models of the Class 66. Heljan also offers detailed Class 66 models with various liveries and configurations. Modern Traction Kits released a white metal body kit which fitted on a Hornby Railways Class 58 chassis.

Hattons also made a Class 66 which has been modified and re-released by Accurascale to considerable acclaim. **CG**

A time to build

Alwyn Brice goes back to the early post-World War Two years, when manufacturing in the former Axis powers came under Allied supervision.

If you are looking for a niche area in which to collect, one that has not been trampled to death by the hordes of rail and diecast enthusiasts, then I think that I might have the very thing for you: occupied territory toys.

DIVIDE AND RULE

The termination of six years of global conflict in 1945 brought with it peace, yes, but at the same time the myriad headaches of post-war settlement and progress for Germany and Japan. For this article I'm focussing on Germany, with a follow-up feature on Japan.

Here, a historical note will hopefully paint the background to the subject of occupation toys.

The UK, Russia, France and the US, as victors, all exerted their influence in Germany during the immediate post-war years, although Russia's approach to post-war aid did not reflect that of the other three powers, which were keen to help Germany rebuild. Russia's antipathy would, in time, lead to the division of Berlin.

Under the terms of the German surrender, the above four powers became responsible for large areas of Germany; between them, it was envisaged that a new Germany would emerge from the ashes of defeat. It quickly became clear that the country would

require much help, in terms of both goods and investment, and the overseeing powers contributed accordingly. Part of the regeneration programme involved the country once again producing merchandise for export – for foreign currency was vital to any renaissance. And, by 1948, things were improving to the extent that the country was able to drop the occupation currency and utilise the newly-minted Deutschmark.

Recovery had begun.

TOYS FROM A FORGOTTEN ERA

As might be expected, many

domestic industries had either closed their doors during the conflict or had turned their machinery, where appropriate, over to the manufacture of wartime essentials. Certainly toy production was sidelined; there were much more important commodities to produce. That said, from delving through my library, it seems that some of the giants like Elastolin and Lineol still managed a degree of output (with products that made little or no use of metal); whilst others, such as Schuco, with its vehicles, had to await the cessation of hostilities.

With peace came huge demands from just about every sector. The fact that the occupying powers had been dismantling industrial plant deemed a potential threat to future global stability didn't exactly help the situation, either.

But, bit by bit, industry picked up.

If you find this interim period (the US occupation extended from 1945 to 1952) of interest in terms of collecting, there is still much available in the marketplace – and not just toys. Ceramics, carved wood and other household wares all turn up from this era; for toys, tinplate is the material of choice, though.

Helpfully, many items are marked with provenance. MADE IN THE US ZONE is probably the commonest moniker; you will also find items bearing MADE IN GERMANY - BRIT ZONE. French marked items seem to be a lot less common for some reason – and surviving Russian artefacts are very hard to find. But this is not a worry, since there are enough American collectables around to satisfy any appetite.

Markings vary in terms of placement and impress. You may find a printed source



Technofix, another German giant, was renowned for its colourful tinplate, as exemplified by this motorcyclist.



LEFT

This Prameta Jaguar was one of a very small range of superbly engineered model cars in the post-war era.



Rare US Zone Hans Biller large gauge rail layout: an example of the toy sector getting back into its stride.

on some toys, mostly on the rear; alternatively, it could be stamped into the metal (typically underneath) or even embossed. Such has been the interest in toys made during the occupation years that, inevitably, fakes have trickled into the marketplace. However, this remains a bit of an arcane area, so the dubious artefacts shouldn't deter anyone setting out.

COLLECTING THEMES

What to collect is the question here. Many of the US zone toys that are circulating are of tinplate construction, which gives them great charm although some, after all these years, have inevitably suffered from the ravages of time. There's pretty much everything in terms of subject matter: whether you like trains, building site vehicles, nautical vessels, animals or birds, cars, tanks or simply figurines, you are bound to find a number of items that will please. Some of the output, especially from the significant makers, is of very high quality and would sit well in any display cabinet; equally, some of the less exquisite toys, those which were churned out quickly to satisfy a need, are still worthy of consideration, given their historical background.

I've been collecting vehicles since I like four wheel transport, although along with the cars I

have kept an eye out for military products. These, one feels, were probably not overly encouraged, given the upheaval experienced in the immediate preceding years. Despite that, tanks and armoured cars are about; the bonus here is that clockwork motors were often fitted, giving these toys an extra degree of realism and play value. However, don't necessarily expect those same motors to function so well all these decades on. For the completist, I feel, it would be an interesting task to assemble examples of a single model, one with occupied territory markings and one in its later peacetime guise.

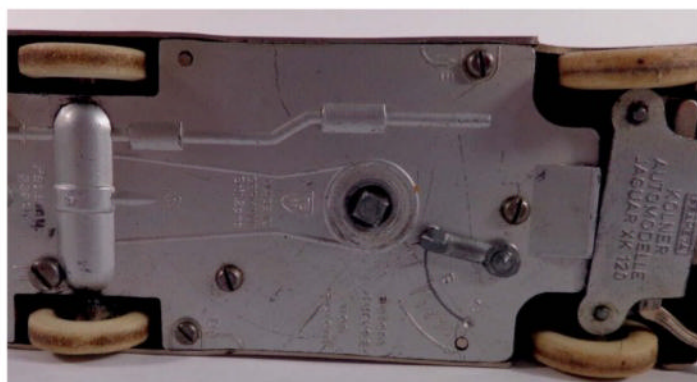
Because Germany had an enviable background in toy production, it comes as no surprise that there are so many interesting toys hailing from this period, all manufactured in the US Zone. Gradually that identification marking would be dropped and toy production would escalate.

Today, you are most likely to find these toys either in Germany or the US; bear in mind, then, the burden of postal charges and VAT and all the other post-Brexit malarkey.

That said, it's a fascinating period, when innovation and materials shortages went hand in hand, yet with triumphant results. **CG**



Schuco quality is legendary; early models can be traced by the rubric underneath.



ABOVE Prameta Kolner's Jaguar XK120, showing the British occupation presence on the chassis.



There are some stunning toys from this period, if you have the cash. Here, an Arnold submarine illustrates high class German lithographing skills.



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To infinity and beyond!

Libby Parfitt looks at the toy story behind Pixar...

Have you ever felt sorry for your stapler? Has your hole punch ever made you chuckle? Or perhaps a pencil forced you to contemplate the meaning of life? No? Okay, what about a desk lamp? Specifically, two angle-poise desk lamps, one big and one small, playing with a bouncy ball that, heartbreakingly, gets squished (but everything turns out alright in the end when it's replaced with an even

better beach ball)? It might seem ridiculous that these inanimate objects could somehow make us feel immense sympathy, but this kind of world-tilting imagination is in the DNA of animation studio Pixar, and this is the plot of their very first short film, *Luxo Jr.*, released in 1986. Pixar has remained at the forefront of computer animation ever since, encouraging audiences of all ages to see the world around them from a different perspective, from the ants of *A Bug's Life* to the superhero family of *The Incredibles* to the lost fish of *Finding Nemo*.

Pixar's beginnings were humble but auspicious, involving luminaries of the filmmaking and tech world. Initially part of George Lucas' Lucasfilm and known as the Graphics Group, the team were originally tasked with creating digital editing and visual effects tools that were first seen on screen in 1982's *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, in a sequence where a barren planet is rapidly transformed into a verdant wilderness. 1986 saw Steve Jobs purchase the division, giving the newly formed company its Pixar moniker and enabling the organisation to focus purely on computer animation. That same year saw *Luxo Jr.* become the first ever 3D-animated short film to be nominated for an Oscar, even being selected by the US Library of Congress for preservation in the National Film Registry, an honour reserved solely for films of cultural significance.

Chosen purely because it was director John Lasseter's preferred

RIGHT

Cowboy Sheriff Woody, voiced by Tom Hanks, is a hugely popular toy with collectors and available at every price point.

BELOW LEFT

Cowgirl Jessie stars in the TV puppet show, *Woody's Roundup*, with a set of all four cast members achieving around £1,200 at auction.



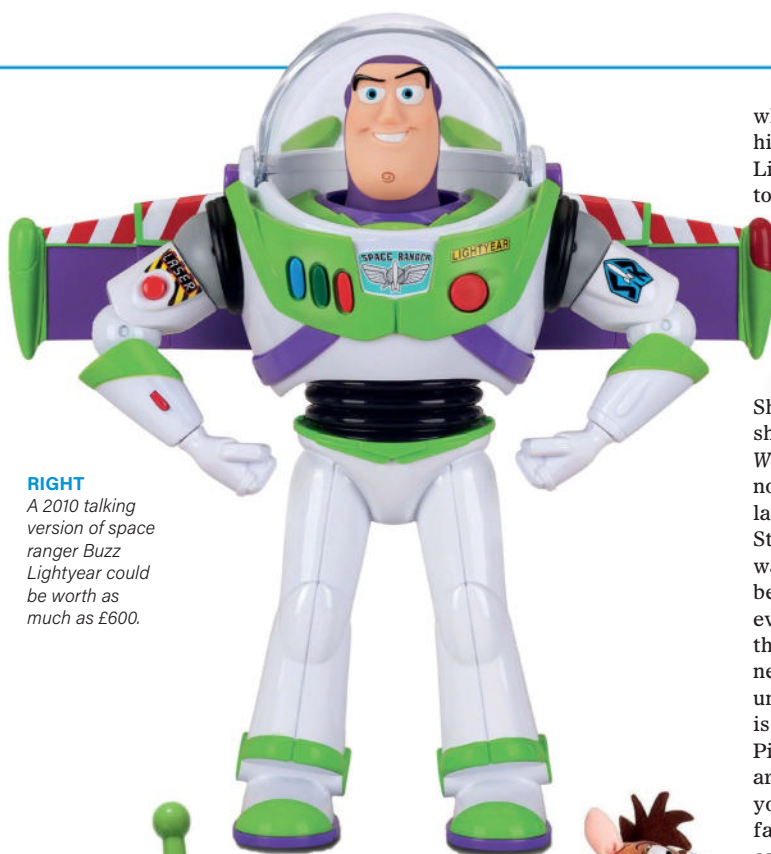
ABOVE

This Funko Pop of Mater was only available at 2015's New York Comic Con and is now worth around £380.

form of desk illumination, so talismanic was the little lamp obsessed with a bouncy ball that it became the company's signature, springing into view and squashing the 'i' in Pixar in the opening credits of every creation since. You might expect, therefore, that Pixar-branded Luxo lights would be a partnership made in heaven, but the reality is a little more complicated: the Norwegian designers, Luxo, were happy for Pixar to use their lamp in animation, but not to sell their own

version. In fact, when Pixar first contacted Luxo the Norwegians couldn't understand what they'd done: computer animation was so new that Luxo thought they must have animated the lamps by hand using stop motion. After some clarification they agreed to Pixar's use of the Luxo name, but matters came to a head in 2009 when Pixar released a special edition Blu-ray of the movie *Up* packaged with a collectible miniature lamp, leading Luxo to launch legal action. It settled out





RIGHT
A 2010 talking version of space ranger Buzz Lightyear could be worth as much as £600.



ABOVE
This alien alarm clock was initially listed on eBay for just £2.50, eventually selling for a whopping £469.



ABOVE
Bullseye is Woody's loyal and noble steed.

of court, but curtailed any dreams Pixar may have had of producing their own lamps; however, if you can find a mint edition of this Blu-ray release complete with Luxo Jr. it's worth around £230.

One recurring theme of Pixar films is the magic of childhood imagination, epitomised in the *Toy Story* movies. *Toy Story* shows what we all secretly believed as kids: that our toys come to life the minute we're out of sight. Across the four films released so far (with a fifth coming in 2026) themes of friendship, loss and what it really means to grow up are explored through a cast of sentient toys living in the bedroom of their young owner, Andy, who carefully Sharpies his name onto the bottom of each toy's feet. With humour and emotional intelligence

appealing to kids and adults alike, at the series' heart lies Sheriff Woody, a rootin'-tootin' cowboy voiced by Tom Hanks who sports a pull-string in his back, producing phrases like "There's a snake in my boot!". Perennially popular and highly collectible, you can find versions of this toy at every price point imaginable: a brand new Woody would set you back £33 at the Disney Store, whilst if you'd prefer a figure created specifically for you there are detailed custom replicas available online for hundreds of pounds. If you want a toy with Andy's name you'll have to look for an older model though: newer versions are inscribed by Bonnie, the little girl Andy passes his toys on to when he leaves for college. The first film explores the tension created

when Andy gets a new toy for his birthday: space ranger Buzz Lightyear. If you're lucky enough to find a rare 2010 Thinkway talking Buzz with over 60 phrases it's worth £400-£600.

In *Toy Story 2* Woody is stolen by an unscrupulous collector who only cares about his monetary value. This film introduces us to the Sheriff's sidekicks from his short-lived TV puppet show, Woody's *Roundup*: cowgirl Jessie, noble steed Bullseye and (we later discover) evil prospector, Stinky Pete (although if that was your name, would you not be somewhat inclined towards evil?). Although the film critiques the small-mindedness of toys who never leave their boxes, a mint unopened set of these four figures is amongst the most valuable Pixar collectibles, attracting around £1,200 at auction. If your budget doesn't stretch that far a record player accessory case of the Roundup crew costs about £190. Another iconic toy introduced in this film is the three-eyed green aliens from the claw grabber at restaurant Pizza Planet; a LEGO figure alien alarm clock that was originally listed on eBay at £2.50 sold for a whopping £469 in 2018.

Pixar anthropomorphised another non-sentient being in its 2006 smash, *Cars*. Telling the story of talented but friendless race car Lightning McQueen, the film extols the old world charm of Route 66, a real 2,500 mile highway that crosses the USA diagonally from California to Chicago. Established in 1926, the highway's travellers supported thriving communities but when the faster interstates opened in the 1960s many were superseded.

Cars' setting, Radiator Springs, is one such town reduced to a shadow of its former glory. Unwillingly stranded there, Lightning learns the importance of friendship from cars including heavily rusted tow truck Tow Mater, blue Porsche 911 Sally Carrera and Doc Hudson, a 1951 Hudson Hornet and former racing champion. A real life one-off version of the Sally 911 was sold at charity auction in 2022 for £2.8 million, making it probably the most valuable Pixar collectible ever. Pixar's design team collaborated with Porsche to recreate the character as accurately as possible, also producing other one-of-one accessories including a book showcasing its development with original sketches from both Pixar and Porsche.

If your budget doesn't quite reach the millions though, there are *Cars* collectibles available at any price point. If you're feeling flush, the Hot Wheels Motor Speedway of the South set including 36 race cars is worth around £2,000. Only 1,000 sets were ever produced, making this a rare and highly desirable collectible. Alternatively, the Funko Pop of Mater that was limited to just 1,500 and only sold at 2015's New York Comic Con now garners around £380. A more financially accessible option is Mattel's Race Damaged Mood Springs car, only sold in Target stores during 2009, which could now raise around £115. Or if you'd simply like to own your favourite characters, you can purchase nine of the film's racers for £28 at the Disney Store. Regardless of your budget or experience as a collector, there is something for everyone at Pixar and that's probably exactly what they'd want. **CG**



ABOVE
Rusted truck Tow Mater helps Lightning McQueen learn the value of friendship.



10 minute TOY EXPERT!

J.K. Farnell

Being a child of the 1950s I have fond memories of the BBC radio show *Listen with Mother*. In my case, always being full of energy, it was often more a case of being made to 'Listen with Mother'! I do fondly remember, however, one snowy Christmas way back in the late 1950s my sister excitedly ripping open a parcel to reveal a cute little golden brown bear called 'Toffee,' one of the characters from *Listen with Mother*. Whatever became of my sister's Toffee Bear we shall never know, he was most likely given to a jumble sale in the 1960s when we'd turned our attention to other things like record players and Scalextric. 'Toffee Bear' would be worth a tidy sum now had he survived in our possession! He had been made by Farnell, a company which, by the 1950s, was already over 100 years old.

It was way back in 1840 that silk merchant John Kirby Farnell set up his first business in the Notting Hill area of London. At this point, however, there was not a soft toy in sight, and certainly no teddy bears to be seen! They would appear later.

To begin with Farnell manufactured small household items made from textiles such as pin-cushions, pen wipes and tea cosies. It was around 1870 that John Farnell's daughter Agnes began making soft toys with the backing of her father and brother Henry. This proved to be the beginnings of a whole new era for Farnell as these soft toys soon began selling well.

John Kirby Farnell died in 1887, after which Agnes and



ABOVE

An early J. K. Farnell Teddy Bear, circa 1915. With bright golden mohair, black flat boot button eyes and a pronounced clipped muzzle.

Henry transferred the soft toy business to new premises at 'The Elms', an 18th century house in Acton.

It is thought that the first Farnell Teddy Bears were made here somewhere between 1906 and 1908, almost certainly making Farnell the first British company to produce teddy bears. The early bears were very similar to the

ones being produced in Germany by Steiff having pointed muzzles, humpbacks, long limbs and webbed toes. They also had black boot-button eyes although these were later replaced by glass eyes. The footpads were made of felt, which was reinforced with cardboard. Farnell bears were listed in a catalogue produced by Harrods in 1910 which showed

the firm's early creations such as Faraday, Fidget, Mountie Ted and Jacob. 1912 saw the production of a range of soft toys based on characters based on the children's novel by Kenneth Grahame *The Wind in the Willows* featuring Mr Otter, Mr Badger, Mole, Ratty, Mr Toad and Vole.

During World War I small Farnell bears were made with the intention of them being given away by loved ones to soldiers serving in the forces as love tokens and good luck keepsakes. These are now highly collectable, especially those that were individually altered and adapted for a specific person.

In 1921 Farnell became a Private Limited Company and a new factory known as 'Alpha Works' was created alongside the old premises. Farnell also recruited the services of designer Sybil Kemp who would go on to create some of Farnell's most famous Alpha bears. The Alpha trademark was officially registered in 1925 and the bears proved hugely popular. The manufacturing process by that time had moved on considerably, having switched from using rabbit skin to Yorkshire mohair.

Farnell Alpha bears were being sold in Harrods and it is from there that a bear was purchased by Dorothy Milne as a gift for her son, Christopher Robin Milne. This bear later became the inspiration behind for *Winnie the Pooh*.

From 1927 a new range of Anima wheeled toys was manufactured, and the factory was extended to accommodate the higher demand for Farnell's ever growing range of soft toys and the increase in new lines.

Agnes Farnell died in January

**ABOVE**

Three Alpha Farnell teddy bears, with golden mohair, orange and black glass eyes, black stitching, swivel head and jointed limbs, one with oil-cloth pad; 1930 to 1940s.

**LEFT**

J.K. Farnell golden mohair teddy bear, shiny black boot button eyes, black vertically stitched nose, shaven muzzle, fully jointed, back hump, felt pads, card lined feet, black webbed claw stitching and black claw stitching to feet, inoperative press squeaker. He sold for £ 800 back in 2010.

RIGHT

Circa 1920s, this Farnell teddy bear had blonde mohair, clear and black glass eyes, pronounced clipped muzzle, black stitched nose, mouth, swivel head and jointed limbs with brushed cotton pads. Even with a bald patch on chest and he still made £588 when he went to auction!

**RIGHT**

This Farnell blonde mohair teddy bear from the 1920s is expected to make over £300 when it goes under the hammer soon.



1928, the year the company opened the doors of an impressive new showroom in East London.

1929 saw Farnell link arms with Louis Force & Co who were instrumental in the marketing and distribution of Farnell's products in both the United States and Canada. They opened a showroom on Fourth Avenue in New York, which was soon followed by another in Paris.

Unicorn soft toy animals were introduced to the Farnell range in 1931 and were aimed at the more affordable range of the market. A year later a merger occurred between Farnell and Birmingham based toymaker William Bailey Ltd, then managed by Percy Goodwin. Bailey Toys was well known for its constructional toys Wenebrik and Kliptiko and also Alphabits that taught children the formation of letters in script. Sales, marketing and advertising was linked and shared between the two companies.

Having successfully ridden out the Depression of the late 1920s Farnell was doing very well as a company when disaster struck in 1934 - fire completely destroyed the factory. It quickly bounced back, however, and a large new factory was constructed within a year capable of housing 300 or more workers who were soon back making toys. New designs followed the opening of the new works including such delights as the Che-kee toys made of lamb's wool and the popular Jay Day and Alpaca dolls. Old favourites like the teddy and Alpha series of bears were also re-introduced to the range in the 1930s.

Just as the company was picked itself up off the ground, it became the victim of enemy bombing in 1940 and once again, the factory was virtually destroyed. Many companies would have thrown in the towel at this

point but Farnell simply refused to give in. The factory was rebuilt for a second time. 1944 saw the death of Henry Kirby Farnell, son of the founder, but despite all these great setbacks the company battled through and continued to expand and develop to its great merit.

Many changes were to take place during the 1950s including the re-design of the Farnell company trademark and the opening of a new showroom in East London. The biggest change came in 1959 with the establishment of a new factory in George Street, Hastings, which became known as 'Olympia Works' and concentrated mainly on goods for the export market, while Acton continued to supply goods for the British market. Before long the Farnell Head Office was also re-located to Hastings. One other major new initiative around this time was the registering of the Mother Goose trademark for washable nylon toys.

By 1964 all production of Farnell toys had been moved to Hastings and the Acton works was leased to a subsidiary company called Acton Toyecraft Ltd who re-named the old factory The Twyford Works.

The making of toys was maintained at the 'Olympia Works' in Hastings until 1968 when J.K. Farnell was taken over by a finance company and production finally ceased.

This was not quite the end of the road, however, as the Farnell brand name was acquired by Merrythought in 1996 and many of the old favourite Farnell bears were made once again.

There is no doubt that J. K. Farnell is historically one of the most important toymakers Britain has known and its fine quality products are still hugely sought after and widely collected all over the world. **CG**

Displaying motorsport

PART 6



Fancy an alternative to displaying your models in rows on shelves or in cabinets?

Rick Wilson mixes his modelling passions in a series of short articles showcasing a variety of possibilities and techniques that could enhance your collection.

As they say on telly, “in a change from the advertised programme...” At the end of the last instalment covering commercial vehicles, I mentioned that the next instalment would be police and emergency vehicles, but for a couple of reasons this has been delayed until a future issue - hopefully (Ed: definitely!).

So in its place is a genre very close to my heart and the area where I discovered collecting about 15 years ago, before my obsession with the Matchbox, Corgi and Dinky toys I had as a young lad took over. For once the card kits from the likes of Metcalfe, Superquick and Kingsway and ready-made beauties from Bachmann take a back seat this time. Instead I had to turn to some unlikely sources mixed with off the shelf accessories and a little bit of home crafting to create some scratch built extras.

A simple but effective way of displaying motorsport diecasts is to match up same scale models from different manufacturers. To illustrate this I chose four 1/43

scale models from the 1979 season – the transporters (Essex Porsche a release by Premium Classixx and Martini Lotus by Spark several years ago) look great with a Troféu Essex Porsche 936-78 and an Altaya partwork Martini Lotus 79. A little motorsport trivia for you is that Martini had sponsored the factory Porsche team from 1976 to 1978 before moving to Lotus in Formula 1 for 1979. Porsche replaced Martini with Essex sponsorship but the petroleum company only lasted for one season with them, guess where it moved its money to for the 1980 season? You guessed it, Lotus.

A ready-made solution comes from Corgi – it released a series of ready-made dioramas during the late 1990s and early 2000s. No.05508 features two 1/36 scale 1999 Mini 7 Racing Club championship winning Minis with a very effective cast rendering of the drop from Druid's Hairpin to Graham Hill Bend at Brands Hatch. Corgi also produced two excellent rally dioramas featuring Minis too.

ABOVE

A simple but effective way of displaying motorsport diecasts is to match up same scale models from different manufacturers.



ABOVE Partworks are a great way of adding to your collection without breaking the bank plus many of them come with a realistic display base. BELOW Corgi released a series of ready-made dioramas during the late 1990s and early 2000s.





Here we have Oxford Diecast's BMC Mobile Unit plus the two Minis from the third release, and I've added three Jaguar D-Types.



A simple mix of brands and props creates a quick display solution.



Rallying affords some excellent display opportunities, from action dioramas to parc fermé scenes, as demonstrated by my rally paddock. A simple mix of brands and props creates a quick display solution – here we have two 1/43 scale Ixo rally releases (the Peugeot 205 T16 and Martini Lancia Delta Integrale in the background) adding a little depth to a rather pleasing scene created by a mix of a partwork Citroën Xsara WRC from the 2004 Rallye Monte Carlo that comes with wheels separated, jacks and balancing cases, and one of TSM's excellent pit crew sets. To finish things off, I created a scratch-built branded awning (the legs are cocktail sticks!) with flooring to add a little more action to the scene.

Partworks are a great way of

adding to your collection without breaking the bank plus many of them come with a realistic display base. The mighty Momo-sponsored Ferrari 333SP is depicted at the 1998 Daytona 24 Hours - it could do with a driver figure though. Altaya released a partwork series of racing cars from Jean Graton's incredibly popular *Michel Vaillant* comic book series, all made by Ixo and featuring figurines plus original artwork from the series as a backdrop. The two I've chosen are the focus of the book's title and the hero car from *Le 13 est au Départ*.

Another simple solution is to add a background within the case and this is demonstrated by the first Ixo I ever bought! My friend Gunnar Jeannette raced the works Panoz at the 2002 Le Mans 24 Hours and

I bought this at the following year's event where Gunnar signed it for me. I wanted to display it with the case on to show off the signature so used one of my own photos of him driving the car from the 2002 race as a backdrop.

Plastic kits can frequently be useful and Corgi's excellent Silverstone Grand Prix Pits No.603 from 1961 is a great way to display its model releases. The matching Press Box was released at the same time and both were joined by the Club House and Timekeeper's Box in 1963.

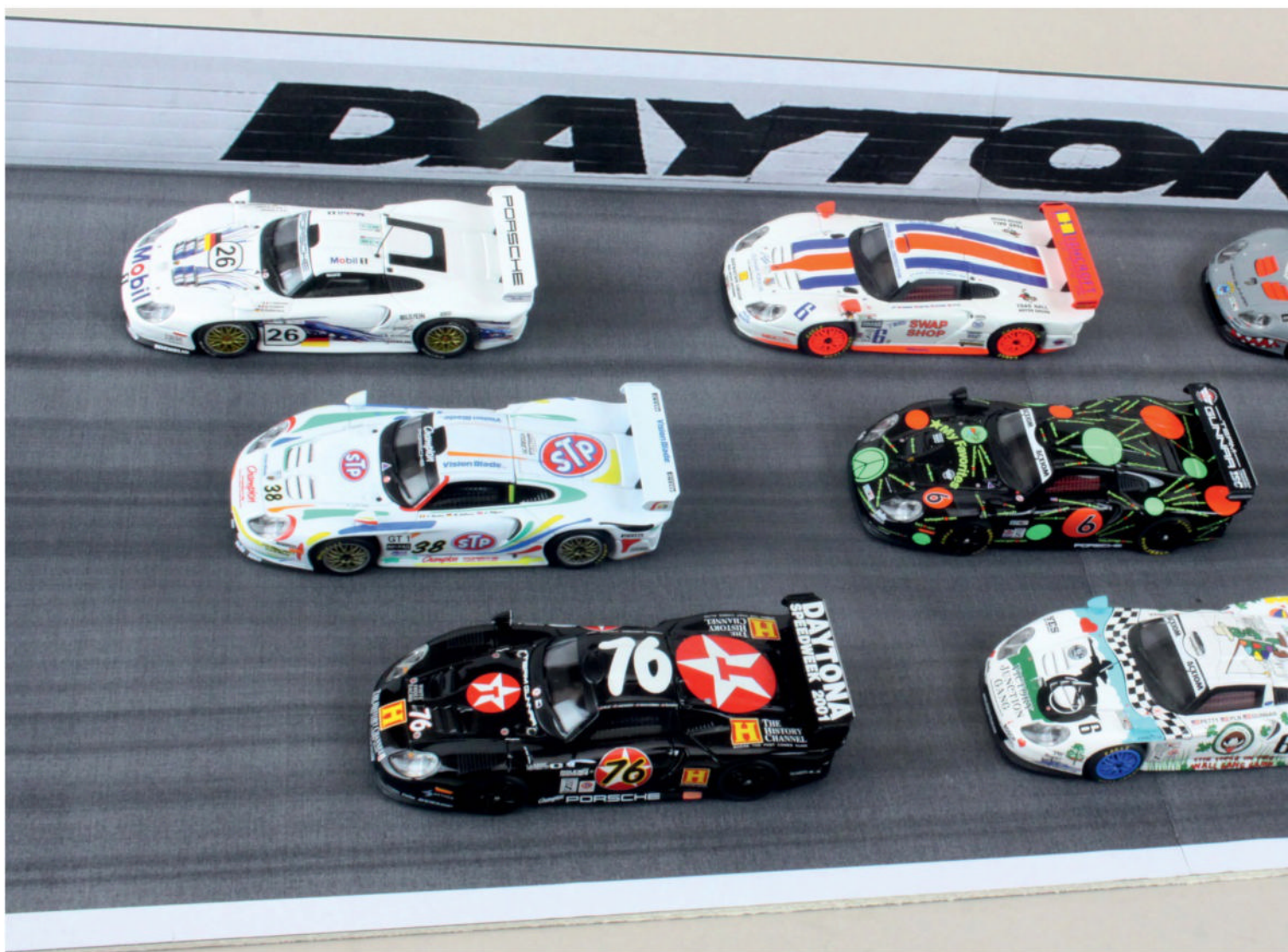
Still on the subject of Corgi, it released some truly superb Gift Sets in the 1960s that make for a great display on their own or together as I have done, with Gift Set 17 Land Rover with Ferrari on

ABOVE During the 2009 Le Mans 24 Hours I took several photos of the Lola Aston Martin prototypes. I created an art print from my photos and sourced the three models by Ixo – making the display box from scratch.

Trailer from 1963 alongside the Volkswagen Pick-Up and Porsche Carrera from Grand Prix Racing Gift Set 12 released in 1970.

Lledo released a Brooklands 85th Anniversary Set through Kellogg's in 1992, featuring Alfa Romeo, Aston Martin, MG and Sunbeam racers with a fabulous card diorama of part of the famous circuit – these can still be picked up fairly cheaply in unmade condition.

Going back to the rally scene, figures work so well with in motorsport scenarios. AUTOart



released the Gulf Porsche 917K in 1/18 scale during the early 2000s. A really great model with lots of parts that open, revealing some superb detail and making it ideal for display. The model was marketed in Steve McQueen packaging as this was the 'hero car' from his 1971 Solar Productions movie *Le Mans* (filmed at the 1970 race and during the following months) but in the actual 1970 event the car was driven by Jo Siffert and Brian Redman. Figuren Manufaktur make a superb Jo Siffert figure at the correct scale and this adds a little extra to the display. Back to 1/43 scale, a Solido Porsche 908 with opening doors works well alongside a 711 Collection Porsche 906 Carrera 6 and those TSM pit crew figures really work well here too.

Sometimes you don't even need figures, just plenty of vehicles. Oxford Diecast has released some excellent motorsport models and I've chosen the first three 1/76 scale releases of its BMC Mobile Unit – 76BMC001 Mobile Training Unit, 76BMC002 Special

Tuning Unit and 76BMC003 Car Transporter with two Minis. I've added the Oxford Diecast first three Jaguar D-Type releases for some extra interest.

My home-made Daytona banking that keen-eyed readers might remember from my Gunnar Porsche 966 article in *Diecast Collector* a while back shows how effective a simple display can be. Although not all these cars actually raced at Daytona, the cars are all related – but the details of this will be reserved for a separate future article!

A scale that doesn't feature in these pages very often but I seem to have a huge collection of is 1/64 – more commonly used in slot racing but also a rough approximation of many Matchbox and Hot Wheels releases over the years. It's the latter that features in my pits and track scene with a Chaparral 2D and 2G in the pits while a Ferrari 330P4 and a Porsche 917 speed past. The accessories come from an unexpected source too – these are all Tri-ang Minic from the 1960s and, although these were marketed as OO gauge (1/76 scale) they are



A Solido Porsche 908 with opening doors works well alongside a 711 Collection Porsche 906 Carrera 6 and TSM's pit crew figures.

all much better suited to 1/64.

Having been to the Le Mans 24 Hours for many years, the iconic Gulf colour scheme inevitably appears more than once in my collection. During the 2009 event I captured the trio of Lola Aston Martin prototypes during the early morning light. I created an art print from my photos and have been looking for the three models ever since to make this one off box set. Thanks to Ixo, I have now acquired the three correct cars from the 2009

event. The number 007 is actually a part work, made by Ixo, but the number 008 and 009 cars are full Ixo releases – the differences are subtle but nevertheless noticeable to keep costs down for the partwork, obviously.

For the next instalment in two issues time I really do aim to focus on Police, fire and ambulance emergency vehicles in a variety of situations, complete with a look at how to install working flashing lights. **CG**



Here we have my simple home-made Daytona banking with three models of Porsche GT1 chassis 005 (front grid row) and the car it inspired – the Gunnar G-99.



ABOVE A scale that doesn't feature in these pages very often but I seem to have a huge collection of Hot Wheels at roughly 1/64. The accessories come from an unexpected source too – these are all Tri-ang Minic.



ABOVE A scale that doesn't feature in these pages very often but I seem to have a huge collection of Hot Wheels at roughly 1/64. The accessories come from an unexpected source too – these are all Tri-ang Minic.



AUTOart released the Gulf Porsche 917K in 1/18 scale during the early 2000s, here it is displayed with the appropriate Jo Siffert figure by Figuren Manufaktur.



ABOVE To show off the signature on this case I used one of my own photos of him driving the car in 2002 as a backdrop.



RIGHT Corgi's excellent Silverstone Grand Prix Pits No 603 from 1961 is a great way to display its model releases.

RIGHT KFC free Gladiator vinyl figures.



Gladiators

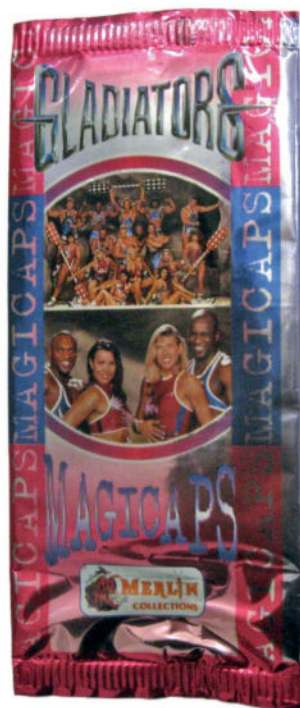
ready?

Gerald Edwards looks back at a staple of Saturday night TV viewing in the 1990s...

During the early 1990s television in the UK was searching for a new sports style family entertainment programme. London Weekend Television, an ITV company, came up with a British version of the US TV hit, *American Gladiators*. So was born *Gladiators*, which screened for the first time in 1992. The format was fairly simple; contestants fought duels with the Gladiators in a recreation, of sorts, of the Roman games at the Coliseum in ancient times...hence the name of the TV show. It was done on a knock-out basis so the winner was never known until the end of the series. The show proved popular and it lasted until the year 2000.

Similar to its ancient counterpart there were six different challenges to face in each week's show - the Atlaspheres, the Wall, the Danger Zone, Swing Shot, Hang Tough and the Duel. These were always the same each week but later series changed these games a little but the basics remained.

The challengers were members of the public but in reality, you needed to be extra fit to compete so many were people with a sporting background. The Gladiators themselves became well-known personalities. The best known was probably Wolf, played by Michael Van Wijk. He was the 'pantomime villain' so beloved of these types of programmes and typified by the wrestlers we all loved to boo when



ABOVE Merlin Magicaps packet.

they did something shocking behind the referees back. The other well-known male Gladiators were Cobra (Michael Willson), Warrior (Michael Ahearne), Shadow (Jefferson King) and Saracen (Mike Lewis). Amongst the female Gladiators were Jet (Diane Youdale), Lightning (Kim Betts), Panther (Helen O'Reilly) and Scorpio (Nikki Diamond). Some Gladiators only featured in a small number of shows due to either injuries, leaving or being replaced. Only Wolf, Saracen, Cobra and Lightning featured in all eight series.

It was not just the Gladiators who starred in these shows. There were a few presenters too with the most well-known probably being Ulrika Jonsson followed by footballer, John Fashanu. Finally, there was the referee, John Anderson, who was best known for his intro to each contest. It was playground speak at the time and consisted of "Contenders, ready? Gladiators, ready?" and then a 3-2-1 countdown.

This programme was peak viewing on a Saturday night for years. Like all these formats it started well but gradually

declined over the years. Some games were changed but the format remained relatively constant. Without a huge refresh it faded away but at its high point it attracted a big audience and, of course, it attracted a large range of spin-off merchandise too.

THE MERCHANDISE

As you might expect, this franchise lent itself to action figures and play sets. A relative newcomer on the scene, Hornby Hobbies, won the contract. Hornby were obviously no strangers to UK toy production as their trains etc were world famous, but action figures were not its staple diet. It produced a range of figures that reflected this. The movements were limited and basically all the figures did the same actions. There were six to collect featuring the most popular Gladiators at the time, consisting of Cobra, Warrior, Shadow, Wolf, Saracen and Jet. Even the accessories were the same in each bubble pack. It was not terribly inspiring especially when faced with the opposition on the toy shelves by such masters of the craft as Kenner and Mattel. Interestingly, these Hornby figures do not appear to have any copyright information stamped on them (normally this is done to

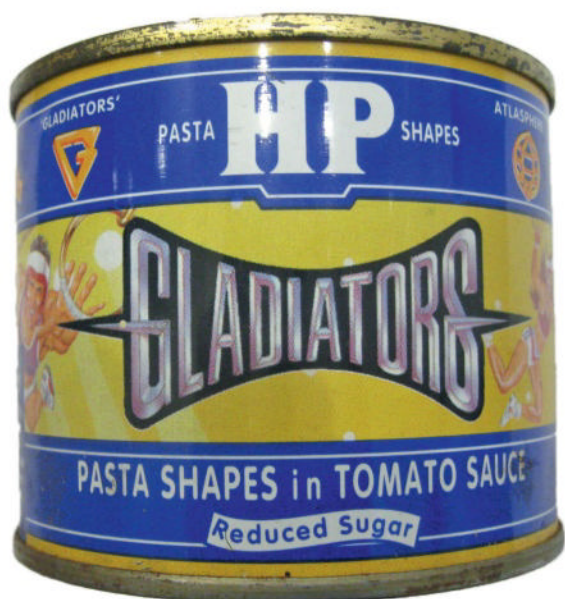




ABOVE AND LEFT Lyons Swiss Rolls package, and lace ties shown to accompany them!



RIGHT Coca Cola Gladiators can.



LEFT
HP Pasta
Gladiators can.



LEFT
Merlin sticker packs.

prevent un-authorised copying). Mattel and Kenner would never leave this information out so it demonstrated Hornby's lack of expertise in this field. There were a couple of basic play sets based upon the actual props from the show too. Sales were good due to the popularity of the show, but it could have been very different had there been some variations especially if different actions could have been incorporated. It may well be that the selling price point was the over-riding factor here. Loose figures turn up regularly but mint on card figures are much thinner on the ground. If you are buying loose, look for the two different helmets each figure came with plus the double tipped baton.

Apart from action figures, there were more of the usual suspects when it came to merchandising. There were some outliers like Lledo who made a 9 1/2 inch long diecast truck where the only real connection to the programme were the Gladiators decals. It is not too hard to find mint and boxed versions today at a reasonable price. Other merchandise is somewhat more difficult to locate. Merlin produced a set of illustrated paper discs (called Magic Caps) in a nice foil envelope with a larger bonus card insert too. They also made a set of stickers for an album. Merlin and Panini were big rivals for the sticker market as it was so lucrative. Another big name was Kellogg's who made a series of foil pictures on the front of Frosties boxes. The idea was to cut these out and paste them on to a special frame you could cut out from the box back. There was also an offer of free Hornby Hobbies action figures in return for tokens on the box. Frosties also produced 3-D pictures on the back of other boxes. The 3-D glasses were inside the box in a small cellophane

wrapped envelope and there was an offer, again with tokens, for a giant poster featuring all the stars of the show. Other collectibles issued were large badges sold commercially, jigsaws and the "Ultimate Challenge" board game.

Confectionery was a popular seller. A rather obscure manufacturer from Glenrothes in Fife called Choc-U-Lov sold Gladiators bubble gum with a free sticker in every pack. Barratt's Refreshers sold a pack of sweets with a Gladiators instant win competition on the wrapper. It offered 10,000 Gladiators posters, 1,000 watches, 500 t-shirts and the main prize was one of 100 Gladiators party tickets. Other big names were HP who sold Gladiators pasta shapes and Coca-Cola Schweppes who did a fizzy lemon and lime sports drink in a nice Gladiators themed can. The Kentucky Fried Chicken brand cooked up a series of small vinyl figures free with their children's meals and Lyons Swiss Rolls sold a nice box of 12 chocolate rolls with a free "magic motion" lace tag in every pack. There were six different ones to collect.

Most of the merchandising is dated from 1992 to 1994, the heyday of the programme. The KFC figures are later, from 1996, but these were the last major items released. Collecting Gladiators items now is not so easy. Whilst both the action and vinyl figures do turn up the paper memorabilia is much thinner on the ground. Like most TV shows of this era, there is quite a lot to collect as it was a major player in its time. There is now a revival of Gladiators playing on BBC TV this time. More merchandise might well surface as this show is aimed at the same audience as last time. Will this be the next future collectible to be amassed and saved? If the show succeeds then the answer is definitely a "yes". **CG**



Best ever?

Alwyn Brice takes a look at a little-known range of diecast miniatures.

Many moons ago I collected Matchbox models. They were plentiful, not too expensive and the finite range of 1-75 appealed. The more I delved, though, the more complicated things became. That series had re-issues; then there were some models with plastic wheels, which could be silver or grey or black. Other variations kept coming to light, and this was before ex-Lesney employees began testing the marketplace with models that never made the final cut. Pre-production examples, often one-offs, sent prices into the stratosphere. And I haven't even mentioned the boxes yet... I finally hung up my anorak when people (admittedly only a few) began to start counting tread patterns on the tyres.

But... if you like diecasts of this size and are blessed with modest means, why not sample Bestbox?

The story of Bestbox has

probably never been fully told and indeed, there seems to be precious little information around on this particular manufacturer. It's yet another case of undiscovered treasure – at least, in some part.

SOME BACKGROUND

Holland is probably not top of anyone's toy retailing country list but it was there, in the province of Limburg, that Bestbox was formed. The area had been notable for its coal mining industry but when that declined in the 1960s, other industries were set up to help absorb the ex-workforce. In particular, the government looked to assist disabled miners; this was rather akin to the situation in the UK in 1959, when disabled miners were taken on at a purpose-built facility in Bargoed, in Wales, to manufacture that iconic British pedal car, the Austin J40.

Thus around this time (or slightly later, depending upon

which sources you track down) in Holland, a factory was established to produce 1/64 scale diecasts.

Was the name Bestbox chosen as a nod to Lesney's Matchbox? It's debatable – after all, imitation was (and indeed still is) the sincerest form of flattery. Whilst the similar-sounding moniker might have been useful in the pioneering days, by 1971 the name was dropped in favour of Efsi. This change was effected because the backing for the workshop facilities came from the Fund for Social Institutions – the FSI in the new name.

The range of diecasts grew as the years rolled by but by the mid-1990s the disabled miner programme was discontinued; at this point Efsi was taken over by one Vincent Nies and output was renamed under the Holland Oto banner. Some of the Efsi models were reworked and repackaged, but by no means all;

and in moving with the times, Holland Oto started to up its game, producing higher quality models in 1/87 and 1/50 scales. The company's output today embraces articulated lorries, buses and tractors.

THE RANGE

For the purposes of this article, though, the focus is on the earlier production that rejoiced under the name of Bestbox.

How best (!) to describe these Dutch products isn't too difficult; in terms of size, they were slightly smaller than rival Lesney's. However, when it comes to quality, it's probably fair to assert that Bestbox was on a par with the Lone*Star Flyers range, for the finish and detailing wasn't up to Matchbox standards.

That's not to say that these Dutch models were inferior because they have a charm all of their own. According to Italian



Four of the earlier production vehicles, with three showing grey plastic wheels in the style of Lesney.



ABOVE

Blister packaging and a change of brand name occurred in the 1970s.

writer Paolo Rampini, there is a catalogue of 34 models, although two of these were never productionised. Output encompasses Formula One racing cars; the ubiquitous Ford Model T (in several guises); road cars (French, German, English and Dutch cars have all been modelled); and a handful of DAF commercial vehicles (presumably to keep the domestic flag flying). So straight away we are looking at a known range, which makes things a lot easier for the collector.

But that isn't the whole story. Colour variations give collecting the Bestbox range an added interest; the only problem you will encounter, perhaps, is finding definitive details of the palette actually used. Bestbox models were, I suspect, never retailed over here (or if they were, quantities were probably small), and so you'll be hard pressed to track them down at swapmeets; indeed, in over 40 years of trawling such events, I don't recollect ever seeing any. Online auction houses are going to be your best bet (as opposed to Bestbox) and,

unsurprisingly, most turn up in the Netherlands.

CLOSE UP

Because road cars, track cars and commercial vehicles were all manufactured, there is literally something for everyone. Colourful red, white and yellow boxes set off the models, so they would have been eye-catching in the shop window in their day; and each box carries individual artwork, letting the buyer know what is contained within.

I admit to being rather biased when it comes to this range, though, and I adore the F1 racing cars (six were produced); these little gems are certainly worth looking out for. They resemble the Hong Kong diecast manufacturer Zylmex range insofar as detailing and car types are concerned, although the drivers within the Bestbox cars are to a more realistic scale. All the main contenders of the day are modelled and care has been taken in fabricating the exhaust systems, which vary a lot in appearance, compared to modern day F1 cars.

I can't get too excited over the Model T variants (they remind me of smaller scale Lledo models, and indeed advertising can be found on the sides of some vans). That said, they are decent replicas (although the early versions are bereft of glazing). If you're into DAFs, then Bestbox will satiate your craving with its commercial models, which include a van, a tipping truck and a fire engine.

LEFT

A slightly unusual choice of subject was the Volkswagen 1600TL.



Jaguar's gorgeous E-type was modelled in topless format; several colours are to be found.

More interesting, I feel, is the road car range, with the delightful convertible E-type Jaguar (I've spotted this in a metallic shade as well as primary colours) that features opening doors. The Citroen DS19 (with opening tailgate) looks a dead ringer for the Husky model, while the Mercedes 220SE (again with opening doors) could be mistaken at first glance for the Lesney version. The uncommon Porsche 911 S and the BMW 2000CS are worth tracking down, although sadly, the homegrown Ford Zephyr never made it into the shops. But if quirky is your forte, then the Citroen Dyane will please (although, one feels, the 2CV would have been rather more iconic!).

Finally, whilst prices of these models vary quite a lot, most are



ABOVE

Chassis details were not omitted - and the company name was highlighted,

readily affordable, especially if unboxed. Bestbox will never achieve the kudos enjoyed by Lesney - but therein lies their advantage to the collector. **CG**

Images courtesy of eBay, Rob Newson and the author.



Corgi Commer 3/4 ton Chassis

David Boxall chooses a particular Corgi model and considers the many ways in which the casting was utilised in order to produce a variety of vehicles. This month's focus is upon the range of Commer commercial and emergency vehicles.

The first celebrated Corgi Commer van to be released, in June 1963, was to become a very popular Police vehicle. The Commer Police Van was issued as No.464. The van was finished in blue with a 'County Police' label and crest along each side, the cab of this vehicle had a red vacuum-formed interior and its own flashing light system. A switch situated underneath the van operated the light. The flashing effect was activated by the use of a cam on the front axle. The whole rear of the body could be detached in order to replace the battery. It was produced in 1/45 scale and achieved 438,000 sales between 1963 and 1967.

This Police Van was re-released in 1967 with the same model number. The new version had 'Police' embossed on the side as part of the casting and new windows, which were engraved with vertical lines. It sold a further 158,000 models and was withdrawn in 1968.

In July 1963, Corgi released the Commer Pick-up as No.465. The chassis, which was issued in red, had the Trans-o-lite system fitted and the rear of the pick-up, in yellow, had a bench seat concealed behind the rear of the cab. It was available until 1966, and achieved 217,000 sales. The Trans-o-lite system used natural light carried through moulded clear plastic from the top of the driver's cab directly to the headlight units and was described by Corgi as "utilising principles previously only employed for scientific instruments".

Both these toys had separate backs to the vehicle. The police van clearly required a detachable back for the replacement of the battery. In respect of the Pick-up, I suspect that it was easier to produce a



ABOVE
The 'Commer' Constructor Set, released as Gift Set 24. Image: Vectis.

rear component than to re-tool for a whole body – particularly as the interlocking element for the back was already designed and in use on the Police van. This concept naturally lead to another excellent release the following month.

While the Commer van was put to good use by Corgi throughout its range of releases during the 1960s, a spectacular surprise was in store for August 1963. The release of the Commer Constructor Set as Gift Set 24 was a particularly innovative issue. The set contained two chassis and four rear compartments enabling the vehicles to be put together in a number of different ways – hence the name of the set.

The various elements could make up an ambulance, a milk float, a red van and a pick-up. The different tops could be used on either of the chassis bases. For example, the milk float could have a blue and white top with milk crates, and a red chassis. It is still one of the most imaginative releases ever made, achieving 345,000 sales, and was finally withdrawn in 1968.

So far there is an emerging theme



ABOVE Gift Set 24 standard chassis as a milk float, complete with milkman.

for the Commer vans – they all use one of two chassis, with or without the trans-o-lite system, and they all have detachable rear components. This was a remarkable use and re-use of the castings even by Corgi's very imaginative standards.

A year later, in February 1964, it continued the theme with the release of the Commer Ambulance, as No.463. This vehicle was issued in cream or white with 'Ambulance' transfers on either side. The

assumption is that this model was issued as a complete vehicle with the rear component riveted to the main body. This can be found with or without a fixed rear ambulance back, depending upon where the model has originated from – an individual box or the Commer Constructor Set.

No.463 was available until 1966 and achieved 213,000 sales.

In April 1964, the Commer milk float was released as No.466. Once



The Commer Police Van was issued as Model No.464. Image: Vectis.



In July 1963, Corgi released the Commer Pick-up as model No.465. Image: Vectis.



ABOVE In 1964, the Commer milk float was released as model No.466. Image: Vectis.



ABOVE The Commer Ambulance, model No.463, achieved 213,000 sales. Image: Vectis.

again, this was essentially the milk float casting from the Constructor Set. The rear component was now riveted to the main chassis. It achieved 151,000 sales, in two years until 1966.

This model was also transformed into the Co-op milk float with the addition of Co-op stickers, and appeared in the Scammell Co-op Set, which was released by 1970.

Corgi released the Commer Military Ambulance as model No.354 in January 1965. It was issued in military green with a red interior, red cross and blue glazing. The model was based on the Commer Ambulance, with a new colour scheme and function. As an extra safety feature, this Commer also had a driver. It was available for just two years, and achieved 99,000 sales.

The Commer Van 'US Military Police', was also released in January 1965, as model No.355. This van was based on the Commer Police Van and was also issued in military green with a driver, red interior and a blue roof light. The model was also available for two years until 1966, achieving 63,000 sales.

In 1967, Corgi released the 'Commer Mobile Camera Van', as model No.479. It was available until 1971 and achieved 572,000 sales plus those in 1969. The camera van was finished in metallic blue and white and had opening rear doors, a cine-camera on a tripod together

with a cameraman. The camera and operator had their own base, which was designed to fit on the roof, or be clipped into place at the front or the rear of the vehicle.

This is useful in almost any diorama, as the film unit looks at home in most displays. A particularly interesting article about this model appeared in the 1969 'Corgi' Annual, 'All About Cars'. The feature looks at the real vehicle and how it was used, and we see it in action in a variety of situations. This model certainly highlights the detail that Corgi achieved, when you compare the model to the real vehicle.

Probably the most colourful Corgi Commer van of them all was released in 1968, as the 'Holiday Camp Special' Mini-Bus - model No.508. It is quite a stunning model with a white upper body and orange lower body, together with an off-white interior. The vehicle has a roof rack with a green luggage cover and three items of luggage. The rear doors open to reveal a detailed interior, and room for a number of people. The Commer has good suspension with spun hubs but best of all, are the decals: 'Holiday Camp Special', on one side and a Union Flag on the other.

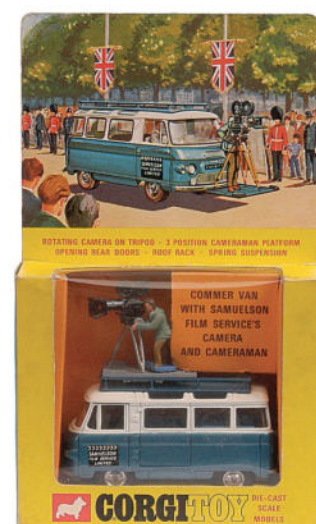
Finally, a rare and particularly attractive model in the Commer range was the Corgi Commer Van advertising 'Hammonds'. This was issued as model No.462, in 1971. The mid-blue lower body and



ABOVE The simple but effective Trans-o-lite "flashing" headlamps are operated by covering and uncovering the top of the driver's cab unit.

light olive green top complement each other very well. The cream side panel ensures that the word 'Hammonds' is clearly legible, and the red interior finishes the model off nicely. The model had cast hubs and was issued in a plain blue and yellow Corgi box, with the model number hand written on the end flap. This must have been a comparatively easy model for Corgi to produce, as it is essentially the basic Commer van with a different colour scheme and cast hubs.

The Corgi Commer van had a very distinguished career, in all of its many colour schemes and disguises. The basic casting was responsible for hundreds of thousands of sales and served Corgi Toys well as a loyal family member throughout the 1960s. **CG**



ABOVE In 1967, Corgi released the 'Commer Mobile Camera Van', as model No. 479. Image: Vectis.

eBay

From collectables of the future to old favourites, eBay always manages to produce some amazing finds... and even more amazing prices!



♦ **Item:** Britains 171F Fordson Super Major with spade wheels
Condition: tractor has a couple of chips to the bonnet but in generally very good, box excellent
Sold for: £720 (23 bids)



♦ **Item:** Kenner Star Wars Vinyl Cape Jawa
Condition: excellent with the only imperfection being a black spot on its head, original figure and cape
Sold for: £1,220 (17 bids)



♦ **Item:** Exoto Ferrari F1 Tipo Team Scuderia, British GP winner 1958
Condition: unable to confirm if car was sold complete, some tape to base, no box
Sold for: £620 (6 bids)



♦ **Item:** Moko Lesney Matchbox Commercial Vehicle Set PS4
Condition: the vehicles are all very good, in a worn original hinged presentation box
Sold for: £600 (2 bids)



♦ **Item:** Gunthermann Captain Campbell's Blue Bird tin toy
Condition: used but working, box has definitely seen better days...
Sold for: £666.66 (11 bids)



♦ **Item:** Tekno Bjarne Andersen Scania R5 6x2 Unit and Fridge Trailer
Condition: mint with original mirrors and box, contained in factory sealed bag
Sold for: £550.00 (18 bids)



♦ **Item:** Hot Wheels Troy Lee Texas Drive Em
Condition: in its unopened box and packaging, with a unique signature from Troy Lee
Sold for: £520 (38 bids)



♦ **Item:** Corgi Tarzan Gift Set 36
Condition: mint in unplayed with original good box, only missing the crocodile
Sold for: £499.99 (1 bid)



♦ **Item:** Thundercats The Driller ram-pager figure
Condition: mint on original card, minor wear around the edge of the card
Sold for: £2,009 (40 bids)



Item: Brooklin Models BRK17a Studebaker Commander Convertible
Condition: rare colour sample version, in original box with all inlay parts
Sold for: £497 (11 bids)



Item: Star Wars Jawa figure with vinyl cape, circa 1977
Condition: recently graded - figure 90% paint 90% cape 90%
Sold for: £2,740 (18 bids)



Item: GT Spirit GT135 Jaguar XJ12 Coupe Broadspeed
Condition: mint but sadly with no outer box, from the New Avengers
Sold for: £640 (14 bids)



Item: LEGO Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Shadow Leonardo
Condition: mint, limited edition minifigure of 400 given away
Sold for: £1,000 (7 bids)



Item: Corgi Gift Set 3 Batman Batmobile, Batboat and Trailer
Condition: excellent with bright paintwork, original box still intact, some age wear
Sold for: £499 (1 bid)



Item: Bell Toys Doctor Who Astro Ray Dalek Gun
Condition: compete, and working, with its original packaging and set of 3 rubber plastic darts
Sold for: £536 (25 bids)



Item: Corgi Ecurie Ecosse Racing Transporter Gift Set 16
Condition: excellent, complete with three racing cars and all original boxes
Sold for: £590 (11 bids)



Item: LEGO Sculpture 3450 Statue of Liberty
Condition: a rare complete 2,882 piece Advanced Models exclusive set released in 2000
Sold for: £670 (7 bids)



Item: ASC Aoshin tinplate Batmobile
Condition: near mint and in perfect working order, with its original box
Sold for: £530 (28 bids)



Item: Nintendo Game and Watch - 1st Edition Flagman
Condition: all original, with the box and game both match serial numbers
Sold for: £454 (13 bids)



Item: Britains Power Farm point of sale display stand
Condition: all 3 knights mint and with the original cardboard envelope packaging
Sold for: £398 (14 bids)



Item: Britains Herald Swoppets 15th Century Foot Knights No.4470
Condition: mint and complete on the 1st Issue type display card stand
Sold for: £337.77 (3 bids)

PRICE GUIDE

Rounding up the latest toy sales from across the country with a brief visit to specialist auction rooms...



▲ **Corgi Toys GS 37 Gift Set "Lotus Racing"**, to include Lotus Coupe, Lotus Elan S2, Lotus Chassis on Trailer, Lotus Racing Car and Volkswagen Pick-Up. Conditions are good to good plus in a fair polystyrene tray (missing outer box). **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Corgi Toys GS 38 Gift Set "Rallye Monte Carlo"**, to include (1) BMC Mini Cooper S - red including interior, white roof, (2) Rover 2000 - metallic maroon, white roof, red interior and (3) Citroen DS19 - light blue, white roof with grey aerial, lemon interior. Conditions are generally good to good display well inner carded tray is good plus, outer blue and yellow carded picture box is poor. **Sold for £300, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys Military 661 Scammell Recovery Tractor**, rare late issue, green including plastic hub, with windows. Excellent plus beautiful example in a good plus correct late issue red and yellow lift off lid box with detailed picture, carded blue base is good plus to excellent with inner tray. **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys Military 670 Armoured Car**, green including rigid hubs. Near mint in a fair complete harder to find yellow and red presentation window box. **Sold for £30, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys Military 616 AEC Articulated Tank Transporter**, green cab and trailer with plastic ramps and hubs, pale grey interior, complete with Chieftain Tank. Green including large rollers and black rubber tracks, with netting only - excellent overall (although tank does have a few small chips on edges) still a lovely bright example in a good carded box. **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 273 "RAC Road Service" Mini Van**, blue body and roof sign, white roof, red interior, silver trim and spun hubs. Excellent overall in a good plus to excellent yellow and red carded picture box (some small pencil writing) on end flap. **Sold for £100, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 274 "AA Road Service" Mini Van**, yellow body and roof sign, white roof, red interior, silver trim and spun hubs. Good plus lovely bright example in a good plus yellow and red carded picture box. **Sold for £90, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 618 Military AEC Articulated Truck and Trailer**, green, pale grey interior, plastic hubs with Helicopter load. Green with black blades and correct decal sheet with netting. Excellent plus in a good box. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 914 AEC "British Road Services" Truck and Trailer**, red cab with pale grey Trailer and green plastic canopy, chrome hubs. Good plus in a good to good plus yellow and red carded box with detailed picture. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 353 "UFO" Shado 2 Mobile**, green including large rollers with black rubber tracks, pale green base with 2 x yellow and black missiles. Excellent plus lovely example (some polystyrene attached to tracks) in a good (slightly grubby) window box with inner polystyrene tray. **Sold for £100, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 103 "Captain Scarlet" Spectrum Patrol Car**, metallic red with yellow interior, blue windows, white base and plastic aerial, cast spun hubs. Good plus to excellent (couple of very small marks on edges) in a good yellow and red carded picture box with instruction leaflet. **Sold for £120, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 100 "Thunderbirds" Lady Penelope FAB 1 Rolls Royce**, pink including roof slides, gold interior with "Parker and Lady Penelope" figures, cast spun pointed hubs. Excellent overall (although does have some surface wear to base and bumpers), still a lovely bright example. Inner pictorial stand is good plus with a excellent outer carded picture box, plus missile and 2 x harpoons. **Sold for £300, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 101 "Thunderbirds" Thunderbird 2, 1st Issue**, green, red including rear thrusters, yellow legs and Thunderbird 4 in pod. Good plus nice bright example, inner pictorial stand is good to good plus with a fair to good (complete) yellow and red carded picture box. **Sold for £160, Vectis Auctions, June.**



▲ **Dinky Toys 104 "Captain Scarlet" Spectrum Pursuit Vehicle**, blue body, white front bumper, black aerials and rubber tracks, with "Captain Scarlet" figure, Cast spun hubs. Good plus to excellent (without white roof cap), inner pictorial stand is good plus including outer yellow and red carded picture box with small inner pack ring also with red and white missile. **Sold for £120, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 104 "Captain Scarlet" Spectrum Pursuit Vehicle**, blue body, white front bumper, black aerials and rubber tracks, with "Captain Scarlet" figure, cast spun hubs. This unboxed example is good plus with unusual possible factory fitted pin in roof) with figure. **Sold for £35, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 105 "Captain Scarlet" Maximum Security Vehicle**, 1st issue, white body and plastic aerial, red base and trim, cast spun hubs, red interior with radiation box. Excellent in a good carded picture box. **Sold for £130, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 108 "Joe 90" Sam's Car**, metallic red body, yellow interior, silver engine cover, cast hubs - excellent plus. Inner pictorial stand with reproduction of correct folded instruction leaflet. **Sold for £140, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 108 "Joe 90" Sam's Car**, chrome plated body, yellow interior, red engine cover, cast hubs - excellent plus (some very minor pitting). Inner pictorial stand with reproduction of correct folded instruction leaflet. **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 108 "Joe 90" Sam's Car**, chrome plated body, yellow interior, thin paint finish red engine cover, cast hubs. This unboxed example is excellent. **Sold for £40, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 108 "Joe 90" Sam's Car**, powder blue body, yellow interior, red engine cover, cast hubs - excellent. Inner pictorial stand with reproduction of correct folded instruction leaflet. **Sold for £130, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **Dinky Toys 351 "UFO" Shado Interceptor**, green, chrome interior with blue tinted window, red legs and with white and orange missile. Excellent plus in a good carded picture box. Inner pictorial stand is reproduction with correct folded instruction leaflet. **Sold for £130, Vectis Auctions, June.**



♣ **A boxed Norev 1/18 scale Ford Capri 2.8 injection in blue over silver # 182710.** The car is a little dusty from display and appears in excellent condition overall in a very good box. **Sold for £110, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A limited edition Hot Wheels Elite Ferrari 308 GTB # T6924 in 1/18 scale**, one of only 5000 made. The right side door mirror is missing and the window glass has come unstuck and is inside the car to refit, the other side window glass is missing, there is a paint chip on the left rear corner of the engine cover. The box is in good condition. **Sold for £28, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A boxed Ertl American Muscle 1/18 scale Ford Gran Torino from the TV series Starsky & Hutch #36685.** The car is lightly dusty from display and appears in excellent condition in a very good box. **Sold for £60, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **Greenlight Collectibles Charlie's Angels - a limited edition boxed 1/18 scale Ford Mustang II Cobra II as driven by Farrah Fawcett's character Jill Munroe #12880.** The car is lightly dusty from display and appears in excellent condition, there is a small tear in one corner of the box. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **Auto World CHiPs Silver Screen Machines - a boxed 1/18 scale 1975 Dodge Monaco patrol car from the TV series "CHiPs" #AWSS112/06.** The car is lightly dusty from display and appears in excellent condition in a very good box. **Sold for £55, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **Auto World American Muscle - a boxed limited edition 1/18 scale 1971 Ford Mustang Mach I**, in Grabber Lime paint, one of only 1002 made. #AMM1069/06. The car appears in mint condition in a very good box. **Sold for £65, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A boxed Auto World 1/18 scale 1970 Ford Torino Cobra Jet 429 # 12/02/2013A1.** The car appears in mint condition in a very good box. **Sold for £50, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A boxed limited edition Ertl American Muscle 1/18 scale 1967 Chevrolet Camaro Z-28 # 33272.** The car appears mint in a very good box with certificate. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A boxed limited edition Greenlight Collectibles 1/18 scale 1979 Chevrolet Camaro Z28 # 12904.** The model appears in mint condition in a very good box. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A boxed Ertl American Muscle Bullitt 1/18 scale 1968 Dodge Charger from the film Bullitt # 36685.** The car appears mint in a very good box. **Sold for £80, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A Dinky Supertoys 968 B.B.C T.V Roving Eye Vehicle.** Item appears in very good condition with accessory. Item comes in its original box which is in good condition with some storage wear. **Sold for £65, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♣ **A Dinky Supertoys 967 B.B.C T.V Mobile Control Room.** Item appears in very good condition and comes in its original box which is partially damaged on one side. Some storage wear. **Sold for £70, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A Dinky Supertoys 969 B.B.C T.V Extending Mast Vehicle with windows. Item appears in very good condition with accessory. Item comes in its original box. The box is missing some of its internal packing but is in overall good condition with some storage wear. **Sold for £50, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A Dinky Supertoys 969 B.B.C T.V Extending Mast Vehicle with windows. Item appears in good-very good condition but is missing its accessory. Item comes in its original box with its internal packaging. The box is partially damaged on one side; overall fair-good condition with some storage wear. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A Dinky Supertoys 968 B.B.C T.V Roving Eye Vehicle. Item appears in very good condition with accessory. Item comes in its original box which is in good condition with some storage wear. **Sold for £50, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A Dinky Supertoys 967 B.B.C T.V Mobile Control Room. Item appears in very good condition with some minor scratches to the windscreen and comes in its original box which is in good condition. Some storage wear. **Sold for £40, British Toy Auctions, June.**



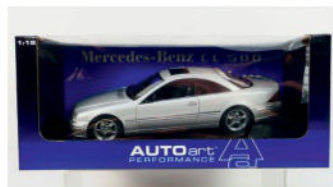
♦ A boxed Ertl Joyride 1/18 scale 1969 Dodge Charger 'The General Lee' from the TV series The Dukes Of Hazzard # 32485. The car appears mint in a very good box. **Sold for £100, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Highway 61 1/18 scale 2010 Dodge Challenger SRT8 in Furious Fuchsia # 50857. The model appears mint in a good box with light storage wear. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Autoart 1/18 scale Ford Sierra RS Cosworth in white # 72862. The car appears near mint, one door mirror is detached but is still in the packaging to be refitted. The box is also very good. **Sold for £120, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Autoart Mercedes CL500 Lorinser version in silver # 70121. The left door mirror has come unstuck but is still in the box to be refitted, the car appears otherwise mint in a fair box with light storage wear. **Sold for £55, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Hot Wheels 1/18 scale 1969 Corvette Stingray ZL1 # 21355. The car appears in mint condition in a very good box with light storage marks. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Autoart 1/18 scale Mini Cooper S in dark silver # 74842. The car is lightly dusty from display and one windscreen wiper is missing. It appears otherwise very good condition in a good box. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed UT Models 1/18 scale Ferrari F355 Berlinetta in red # 180074020. The car is dusty from display and appears in excellent condition in a good box with some storage marks. **Sold for £22, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed UT Models 1/18 scale Ferrari 550 Maranello in silver # 22122. The car is lightly dusty from display and appears in excellent condition in a very good box. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Norev 1/18 scale 1963 Mercedes Benz 230 SL in gold with removable hardtop # 183503. The car appears in mint condition in a very good box. **Sold for £80, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Minichamps 1/18 scale 2004 Aston Martin DB9 Coupe # 150137320. The car is lightly dusty from display and appears in excellent condition in a very good box. **Sold for £40, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ A boxed Autoart 1/18 scale Ford Mustang as driven by Steve McQueen in the film Bullitt # 72811. The model appears mint in a good box with some storage wear. **Sold for £120, British Toy Auctions, June.**



♦ Matchbox Superfast Ford Zodiac in green with narrow wheels # 53, which appears near mint with a tiny crack in the windscreen in a very good box. **Sold for £40, British Toy Auctions, June.**



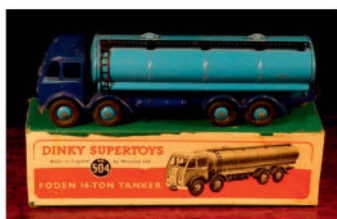
♦ Dinky Toys (France) 29d Paris bus (autobus Parisien), dark green body with cream upper body and roof, dark green ridged hubs, boxed. **Sold for £55, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



♦ Dinky Toys (France) 29f autocar chausson, blue body with silver detail, cream upper body and roof, blue ridged hubs, boxed. **Sold for £35, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



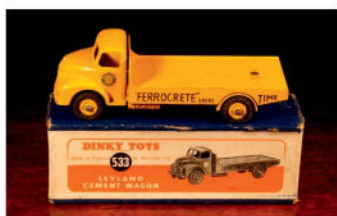
♦ Dinky Toys (France) 32ab Panhard 'S.N.C.F.' articulated truck and trailer, dark blue cab and trailer with decals, dark blue ridged hubs, boxed. **Sold for £50, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Supertoys 504 Foden 14-ton tanker, blue 1st type cab with light blue flashes, blue chassis, light blue tanker, light blue ridged hubs, boxed. **Sold for £95, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



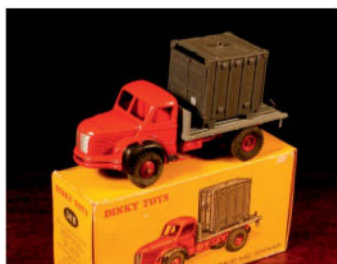
▲ Dinky Toys (France) 535 Citroen 2 CV, maroon body, grey roof, cream ridged hubs, boxed. **Sold for £50, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



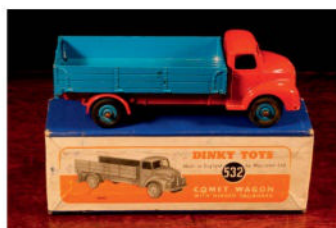
▲ Dinky Toys 533 Leyland cement wagon, yellow cab, chassis and wagon with 'FERROCRETE' decals, yellow hubs, boxed. **Sold for £80, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Toys 501 Foden diesel 8-wheel wagon, blue 2nd type cab and chassis, light blue wagon, light blue hubs, boxed. **Sold for £60, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Toys (France) 34b Berliet container truck, deep red cab and chassis with black wheel arches, grey flatbed piece with container, red hubs, boxed. **Sold for £50, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ A rare Dinky Toys 532 Comet wagon (unusual colour variation), red cab and chassis, blue wagon with hinged tailboard, blue hubs, boxed. **Sold for £220, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Toys 49 petrol pump and oil bin set, boxed with original inner cardboard display piece. **Sold for £35, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Supertoys 987 ABC TV mobile control room, pale blue and grey body with red strip, various decals, boxed with plastic cameraman figure, camera and length of faux cable. **Sold for £75, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Supertoys 988 ABC transmitter van, pale blue and grey body with red strip, various decals, boxed with a paraboloid plastic aerial. **Sold for £80, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Toys 106 Mini-Moke from the T.V. series The Prisoner, white body with decal on bonnet, white plastic canopy roof with red and white striped sticker, white aerial intact, spun plated hubs, boxed. **Sold for £100, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Dinky Toys 133 Cunningham C-5R Road Racer, white body with blue racing number '31' to doors and bonnet, blue racing stripes, beige interior with blue painted seated driver figure, clear plastic windscreen intact, blue ridged hubs, boxed. **Sold for £50, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



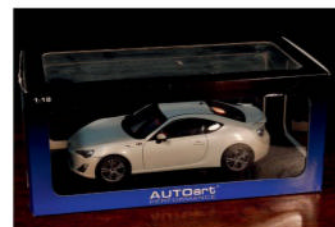
▲ Dinky Toys 118 tow away glider set, comprising Triumph 2000, white body with blue roof, red interior, spun plated hubs, plastic trailer with glider, boxed with original inner pictorial cardboard display stand. **Sold for £85, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ A Tri-ang Spot-On 100sl Ford Zodiac, with lights, two tone red and white body, tan interior, boxed. **Sold for £35, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ A Paul's Model Art Minichamps 1/18 scale Maserati Tioi 61 Times/Mirror GP for Sportcars, 1960 Carroll Shelby, boxed. **Sold for £55, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ An Autoart Performance 1/18 scale 78773 Toyota 86 GT "Limited" (RHD) (White Pearl) model, boxed. **Sold for £50, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ A Universal Hobbies 1/16 scale Fordson Major E27N tractor, boxed. **Sold for £30, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ A Universal Hobbies 1/16 scale Massey Ferguson TE 20 "The Little Grey" tractor, boxed. **Sold for £35, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**



▲ Corgi Toys 153 Proteus Campbell "Bluebird" record car, white seated plastic driver figure, black plastic wheels, boxed with original 'JOIN THE CORGI MODEL CLUB' literature slip. **Sold for £35, Bamfords Auctioneers & Valuers, May.**





♣ Britains Set 205, Coldstream Guards at present with Officer, second version feet at present in original Whisstock box. Condition excellent, box very good, 1937. **Sold for £70, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Britains set 225, Kings African Rifles, in original Whisstock box. Condition excellent, one bayonet missing, box very good, 1937. **Sold for £75, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Britains set Japanese Infantry charging, in original printer's decorated box. Condition very good, box good-fair, 1935. **Sold for £110, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Britains set 173, Servian Infantry charging, second version, undated, in original printer's decorated box. Condition very good-good, one not matching, box good, tray not matching, backing strip missing, 1935. **Sold for £130, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Britains set 141, French Infanterie second version, gaitered, dark blue coats, dated 9.5.1905 with Officer dated 18.3.1909 in later Whisstock box. Condition good, box fair, 1909. **Sold for £160, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde No.2 five Polar Explorers, with three sledges, boat, kayak, signalling pole, two racks, three polar bears and ten dogs in an original box. Condition good, box good-fair. **Sold for £440, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 90mm size mounted Jockey, condition very good, whip slightly bent. **Sold for £65, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 90mm size King George V, mounted, condition very good, reins missing, incorrect horse and saddle good. **Sold for £160, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 90mm size King George V, mounted, condition very good-good, incorrect horse. **Sold for £240, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 100mm size Edward Prince of Wales, in the uniform of the Welsh Guards, condition very good. **Sold for £420, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 75mm size British Indian Army Camel trooper condition good, harness for camel missing, slung rifle bent. **Sold for £280, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 75mm size British King George V, condition very good. **Sold for £540, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 75mm size British Indian Army Cavalryman, condition good. **Sold for £600, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Heyde 60mm size Arab on Camel, condition good. **Sold for £65, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Britains Paris Office Japanese Cavalryman, at the halt with kepi. Condition very good, 1915. **Sold for £220, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Britains Paris Office Royal Horse Guard with short carbine, from the Cuirassier figure. Condition very good. **Sold for £110, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Highland Officer mounted by Heyde or similar, 75mm size. Condition very good-good. **Sold for £120, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Lord Roberts by Heinrich or similar, 70mm size, condition very good. **Sold for £240, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Lord Kitchener by Spenkuch or similar, 70mm size, condition very good. **Sold for £160, C&T Auctions, June.**



♣ Original boxed Palitoy Star Wars Darth Vader Tie Fighter, with instructions, showing some creasing but otherwise very good. **Sold for £200, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Palitoy Star Wars Battle Damaged Tie Fighter, with instructions, poster and 4 x used sticker sheets, box damaged from removal of price sticker but otherwise vg, stickers slightly detached otherwise very good. **Sold for £190, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Kenner Star Wars The Empire Strikes Back AT-AT, with instructions, poster, unused sticker sheet and sealed bag of accessories, storage wear to box, vehicle very good. **Sold for £380, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Palitoy Star Wars Turret and Probot Playset, with instructions, showing creasing, edgewear and tearing to box, set very good. **Sold for £220, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Kenner Star Wars Twin-Pod Cloud Car, with instructions sheet and Kenner Catalogue, box showing squashing to one corner and edgewear throughout, very good. **Sold for £170, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Kenner Star Wars Slave I Boba Fett's Spaceship, with instruction sheet, unused sticker sheet and Kenner catalogue, showing squashing, edgewear and creasing to box, vehicles very good. **Sold for £400, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original carded Palitoy Star Wars Return Of The Jedi C-3PO (Removable Limbs) figure, 65 back, unpunched, excellent. **Sold for £180, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Boxed original Kenner Star Wars Return Of The Jedi Speeder Bike, factory sealed, box showing wear to bottom of box but otherwise very good. **Sold for £100, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Boxed original Palitoy Tri-Logo Star Wars Return Of The Jedi Sy Snootles And The Rebo Band set, contents partially sealed with Tri-Logo poster, box showing minimal wear. **Sold for £260, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Kenner Large Size Jawa Action Figure, box showing edgewear otherwise very good. **Sold for £440, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Kenner Creature Cantina Action Playset, appearing complete, good overall condition with good box with instructions. **Sold for £260, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Deny's Fisher Artoo Detoo (R2-D2) Large Size Action Figure, showing creasing, edgewear and glue residue, discolouring to figure otherwise very good. **Sold for £150, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Kenner Micro Collection Imperial Tie Fighter Vehicle, unused, instructions and sticker sheet sealed, box showing storage wear otherwise very good. **Sold for £70, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**



♣ Original boxed Palitoy The Empire Strikes Back Millennium Falcon, with instructions and unused sticker sheet, box showing storage wear, missing inner flaps otherwise very good overall, vehicle has stickers attached, very good. **Sold for £200, Wessex Auction Rooms, June.**





▲1949-54 Hornby No.501 clockwork 0-4-0 loco and tender LMS, lined maroon, sans serif 5600 on cab-sides, serif LMS on tender sides. Light corrosion to boiler handrails. Only the minutest chips around the keyhole and a very small 'ding' in boiler. The double boiler band closest to the cab has a few chips. With key and lamps. A very fine example (excellent to near mint), loco box excellent with some graffiti on underside of base. Tender box, excellent to near mint, with LMS sticker. **Sold for £40, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲Post-war Hornby No.502 20v AC 0-4-0 loco and tender LNER lined green, No.1842 on cab-sides, LNER on tender sides. Merest suggestion of very light creasing R/h cab-side. Loco and tender (excellent to near mint) repro one piece box, excellent repro. **Sold for £160, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲Post-war Hornby No.502 20v AC 0-4-0 loco and tender, LMS lined maroon No.5600 sans serif on cab-sides, serif LMS on tender sides. Both loco and tender are near mint. Original green loco box with LMS sticker (box near mint), tender box, original. With guarantee and lamps. **Sold for £360, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲Post-war Hornby No.502 20v AC 0-4-0 loco and tender, LMS lined maroon No.5600 sans serif on cab-sides, serif LMS on tender sides. Loco and tender are excellent to near mint. Repro red one piece loco and tender box with LMS label with label each end stating LMS No.502. Box near mint as a reproduction. **Sold for £80, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1936-41 Hornby EM36, 6v AC, 0-4-0 tank loco, LMS lined maroon No.2270 with cylinders, 8 spoked wheels with rods. A few chips including one by dome on top of boiler. Wheels appear to be repainted in original red colour. Slight indentation to front buffer beam (excellent). Original green box, slightly faded and lid edges in need of strengthening (box very good) **Sold for £90, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1932-6 Hornby EM320, 20v AC, 0-4-0 tank loco, LMS lined maroon No.2270. Possibly a transitional model with coupling rods, and 8 spoke wheels but no cylinders. One very small mark on top of boiler, otherwise excellent to near mint. With boiler protector. Original green box with orange corrugated wrapper. LMS sticker on one end of the box. Box base (excellent) lid two corners split. **Sold for £160, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1937-9 Hornby E120, 20v AC, 0-4-0 tank loco, revised body style, LMS lined maroon No.2115, with cylinders and rods. Couple of minute marks on cab roof and a few elsewhere otherwise excellent. Original green box dated June 1939 with LMS sticker, with original orange corrugated wrapper also with LMS sticker (box very good to excellent) some scuffing on edges. **Sold for £160, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1936-7 Hornby E120, 20v AC, 0-4-0 No.1 Special Tank loco, LMS lined maroon No.70, serif letters and numbers, excellent to near mint. Original box (very good) with scuffed edges and an area of damage to centre of lid. With original orange corrugated wrapper with LMS sticker and stamped 20v. **Sold for £300, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1937-9 Hornby E220, 20v AC, 4-4-2 No.2 Special Tank Loco, LMS lined maroon No.6954, sans-serif letters and numerals, a few very small marks, hardly noticeable (excellent). Complete with a letter from Nat Donnelly listing his repair work in 2016. Repro green box (excellent) as a repro. With repro buff corrugated wrapper. **Sold for £140, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1930-6 Hornby E26, 6v AC, 4-4-2 No.2 Special Tank Loco, LMS lined maroon No.2180, shadowed serif letters and numbers. It appears that there has been some past damage to the cab but the repair has been expertly done. Overall very good to excellent. Original green box with original orange corrugated wrapper which states '6V Electric.' LMS sticker on end of box lid. Some tape repairs otherwise box very good. With instructions, guarantee and other paperwork. **Sold for £160, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1936-41 Hornby E320, 20v AC 4-4-2 'Royal Scot' loco and tender, LMS lined maroon No.6100, shadowed serif letters and numbers on loco and tender, black smoke deflectors and smokebox, four boiler bands, outline rear splashers lining. No.2 Special tender LMS. Very few marks (excellent). Loco and tender in separate repro boxes, green for loco, red for tender. **Sold for £250, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1936-41 Hornby E320, 20v AC, 4-4-2 loco and tender 'Lord Nelson' Southern No.850, black smokebox and deflectors, 3 boiler bands, outline rear splashers lining. One driving wheel is a replacement. No.2 Special tender with 'Southern 850' on sides. Overall excellent. One piece Millibox repro green box with original; green corrugated wrapper for the loco (box excellent) as a reproduction. **Sold for £340, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲Probably early 1930's Hornby 20v AC, 0-4-0, E120 Special loco and tender, GWR No.2301 lined green. This version is not listed in the Compendium but appears to be genuine and is not an electrified clockwork body. Small amount of damage to bottom of L/h cab-side (very good to excellent). Tender 'Great Western' on sides (excellent). In a one piece Millibox (excellent) as a repro. With a Hornby original green corrugated wrapper. **Sold for £250, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1935-41 Hornby E120, 20v AC, 0-4-0, Special loco and tender, Southern No.1179 on small plate on cab-sides, lined green. Only a few small marks. Front buffer beam chipped. No.1 Special tender with 'Southern 1179' each side. A few small marks. Overall very good to excellent. One piece Millibox green repro box with the tender in an original box inside the box. Box an excellent reproduction. **Sold for £260, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



▲1930-6 Hornby E220, 20v AC, 4-4-0 loco and tender 'County of Bedford' GWR No.3821, lined green, black smokebox and running plate, 3821 on plate on cab-sides, 'Great crest Western' on tender sides. A few marks overall and both cab-sides have been creased and straightened. Very good in a Millibox black repro box with non-Hornby labels at each end partly torn away. Loco wrapped in an original Hornby green corrugated wrapper slightly narrower than the loco. Tender is packed in a Hornby No.2 Special tender box (excellent) inside the one piece box. **Sold for £260, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



♣ **1935-41 Hornby E220, 20v AC, 4-4-0 loco and tender Southern L1.** Small cab-side number plate, black running plate and smokebox, unlined cab-sides, tender 'Southern 1759' on sides. The loco is a suspected long ago total repaint with a few small areas of re-touching. The tender appears to be totally original. There is a crack in each of two driving wheels. Despite the foregoing the loco & tender will make a splendid addition to any layout (excellent) in its present condition. The box is red for a clockwork version and carries a SR sticker but no evidence can be seen that the body has been converted. Orange corrugated wrapper with SR sticker. Loco box scuffed edges (very good) tender (very good). **Sold for £800, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



♣ **1930-41 Hornby E220, 20v AC, 4-4-0 loco only, no tender, 'County of Bedford' No.3821 GWR lined green, some retouching and relining. Overall some marks (good). Sold for £150, Lacy, Scott & Knight, June.**



♣ **DJH 0 Gauge Kitbuilt Ref 310B 4-6-2 Loco & Tender lined BR green class A3 'Robert the Devil' No.60110, 2-rail finescale electric with the earlier Ex GNR coal rail Tender. Professionally built and painted, with full building instructions. Excellent, box good. Sold for £460, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Unknown make Kit/Scratch built 0 Gauge 4-2-2 Loco & Tender GNR (Great Northern Railway) lined green 'Sterling Single' No.1, 2-rail finescale electric. Older kit built model, nicely built and painted, in a wooden carrying case, good, case good. Sold for £420, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **DJH 0 Gauge Kitbuilt Limited edition Ref K307 4-6-2 Loco & Tender lined BR weathered green class A3 'Windsor Lad' No.60035, 2 rail finescale electric. Professionally built and painted. Wheels have some rusting. Includes instructions dated 1996, excellent, box good. Sold for £320, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **DJH 0 Gauge Kitbuilt Ref K313 4-6-2 Loco & Tender BR lined green lightly weathered class A2/3 'Wolf of Badenoch' No.60506, 2-rail finescale electric. Fitted with a portascap or similar motor, requires a clean. Lacks instructions, excellent box good. Sold for £380, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **DJH Kitbuilt 0 Gauge 2-6-2 Tank loco BR lined black Standard class 2MT No.84016, 2-rail finescale electric. Professionally built and painted, in wooden carrying case, excellent, case good. Sold for £380, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Unknown make Kitbuilt 0 Gauge 4-6-2 Loco & Tender BR lined green, lightly weathered Coronation class 'City of Hereford' No.46255, 2-rail finescale electric. Fitted with a portascap or similar motor. Will require some work to the under side of the loco. There is a builders plate to the underside 'Built by R J Murry Birmingham'. A total of 38 of these Locos were built from 1937, very good in wooden carrying case. Sold for £420, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **DJH or similar Kitbuilt 0 Gauge 4-6-2 Loco & Tender BR lined green Class A1 'Redgauntlet' No. 60137, 2-rail finescale electric. Professionally built and painted, fitted with a postascap or similar motor. Offside outside cab window panel missing, excellent in wooden carry case. Sold for £500, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Vulcan models or similar 0 Gauge 0-6-0 tank Loco BR lined Black Terrier No.32644, 2-rail finescale electric. Professionally built and painted, 2 rear steps missing and roof detached, good to very good. Sold for £90, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Vulcan models kitbuilt 0 Gauge 0-4-0 Southern Tank Loco unlined black class B4 No.94, 2-rail finescale electric. Professionally built and painted, very good, box good. Sold for £130, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Tower Model San Cheng (China) RTR Modern issue 0 Gauge 4-6-0 Loco & Tender LMS Parallel boiler Patriot (Baby Scot), 2-rail Finescale electric lined LMS weathered maroon No.5507, crew added to cab. Very good to excellent in modern wooden carrying case. Sold for £420, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Tower Model San Cheng (China) RTR Modern issue 0 Gauge 4-6-0 Loco & Tender GWR Castle Class, 2-rail Finescale electric lined weathered green 'Criccieth Castle' No.5026 with Monogram GWR transfer to Tender sides, one name plate and cab interior window detached. Very good to excellent. Sold for £700, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Kitbuilt Finescale 0 Gauge unknown make box labelled Tivendale models 2-8-2 GWR Tank Loco class 7200XX, 2-rail electric unlined green No.7205 with 'Great Western' lettering to the Tank sides. Very good in modern wooden carrying case. Sold for £320, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **David Andrews Finescale Kitbuilt 0 Gauge 4-6-0 Loco & Tender Claughton class, 2-rail electric lined black 'Sir Gilbert Claughton' No.2222. Built and painted to an excellent standard, includes cab detail and inside motion. Label to box end states 'Built by streamline for J Kennerley 20/08/2006'. Very good in modern wooden carrying case. Sold for £600, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **David Andrews Kitbuilt Finescale 0 Gauge 0-8-0 Loco & Tender Ex LNWR LMS 'Super D', 2-rail electric unlined black No.9402. Built and painted to a good standard. Box label states 'Kitbuilt by J Kennerley 25/07/2026'. Very good in modern wooden carrying case. Sold for £460, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **DJH engineering Ltd Finescale Kitbuilt 0 Gauge 0-4-4 LNER Tank Loco Ex NER class G5, 2-rail electric lined Black No.1883, professionally built and painted with detailed cab and crew, box label states built for J Kennerley 20/05/2013. Includes DJH instructions with decoder address set to 03 Sold for £240, Special Auction Services, June.**



♣ **Kit/Scratch built Finescale 0 Gauge 2-4-2 LMS Tank Loco Webb class 1P lined Maroon No.6732, older model, built and painted to a fair standard, fair to good condition. Sold for £150, Special Auction Services, June.**

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Springfields Events & Conference Centre, Camelgate, Spalding, Lincs PE12 6ET
10am - 2pm >> approx. 150 tables >> 6ft table £33
>> Ad (16+) £3.50, Sen (65+) £3, Accompanied Ch (15 and under) Free

BRENTWOOD SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2024

The Brentwood Centre, Doddington Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9NN.
10am - 2pm >> approx. 180 tables >> 6ft table £35
>> Ad (16+) £4, Sen (65+) £3.50, Accompanied Ch (15 and under) Free

SPALDING SUNDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2024

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10am - 2pm >> approx. 150 tables >> 6ft table £33
>> Ad (16+) £3.50, Sen (65+) £3, Accompanied Ch (15 and under) Free

LINCOLNSHIRE SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2024

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10am - 2pm >> approx. 150 tables >> 6ft table £33
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BRENTWOOD SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2024

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10am - 2pm >> approx. 180 tables >> 6ft table £35
>> Ad (16+) £4, Sen (65+) £3.50, Accompanied Ch (15 and under) Free

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Toy Stories

Ed Karswell remembers some old bangers...

Collectors, when talking about model cars, often stray into the world of their real-life counterparts. Given their linked history it could hardly be otherwise. My father, a child of the 1950s always waxed lyrical over his Dinky Toy saloons. Living opposite a garage at the time he literally had a front row view of the real-life Riley's, Standard Vanguard's and Austin Atlantic's that pulled in for a quick wipe of the windscreen and to fill up on Four-Star. The whole scene was replicated on his sitting room floor, although as he's always quick to correct new cars were quite scarce in early post-War Britain, though thankfully Dinky toys were not.

When my childhood arrived sometime in the early 1970s things had changed quite a bit. I was a big Matchbox fan, although a lot of the cars they made at the time didn't really match the average family saloons that were seen on the roads. For example, I don't remember Mr Jones from down the road driving a 'Harry Hustler'

or Mrs Kimball going into town to pick up her Green Shield Stamps in her 'Big Banger', complete with jacked up rear end and exhaust headers coming out of the bonnet. I'm talking about the car not Mrs Kimball...

Much of the diecast output bore little resemblance to the then current trends in car design. Even when some quarter was given to reality the Lamborghini Miura was hardly something that turned up in Woolworths car park. I'm not knocking the models as they look great as period pieces although at the time, I coveted the earlier issues.

I also like the fact that as collectors we are often much more in touch with the models than the cars. I once had a conversation with a Spot-On collector at Sandown who had hardly seen any of their range in the metal, so to speak. Well, it's not every classic car show that can rustle up an Armstrong Siddeley Sapphire, a Meadows Frisky Sport or even a Vauxhall PA Cresta come to that. In fact, some of the Spot-On range weren't even that common

when the cars were new. This though is a familiar trait amongst contemporary manufacturers. After all there were precious few models of the ubiquitous Morris Minor when it was current, yet Corgi's piece of exotica the Chrysler Ghia had a very successful run... even though virtually none of the prospective customers would ever get the chance to see a real one!

This was also echoed by the Austin Atlantic. The Atlantic was Austin's failed attempt to break into the American market. It was never a common car even in the UK. Yet to Dinky collectors it's as well-known as the Morris Minor is to the general public. Corgi's Riley Pathfinder is another car that in its time was not that highly regarded, but nevertheless the version is a good model and much sought after. Good models of bad cars are not just interesting historical anomalies. After all, Matchbox's Vauxhall PA Cresta is rightly regarded as a mini masterpiece and the variations are the benchmark of what Matchbox collecting is all about. I'm sure this

would have tickled the gentleman I spoke to at the car show who had restored the Vauxhall PA Cresta he owned and relayed to me about most of the floor having been missing when he acquired it and it was the best one of all the Crestas he'd been to view!

As I mentioned, unlike my father, I don't remember owning any of the models of the cars that inhabited our street in the early 1970s. This was no doubt down to the fact that most of the cars where we lived were second-hand bangers from the 1960s or earlier. There were Volvo Amazon's, a Vauxhall Victor estate, a 1950s Ford Prefect and the only new car, an Austin Allegro. So not a 'Mod Rod' or a 'Cougar dragster' in sight then?

Now, I've just been flicking through some model toy books in preparation for this article and my eye has been caught by a Triang Spot-on Gogomobile Super from 1960. What do you think my chances are of picking one up on eBay? I'll have to phone up an insurance company to get a quote... **CG**

Obsolete

OZ

Our monthly gaze into the weird but wonderful world of collector/dealer **Obsolete Oz**. Buying and selling since the 1970s, Oz has developed a great knack for unearthing some amazing finds from flea markets, antique fairs, car boot sales, rubbish skips and even the local tip.

Hi folks! Summer has arrived at last and not before time. It's been great getting out early on sunny Sunday mornings to all the rallies and boot fairs now in full swing and it's been great bumping into old friends. One such fellow was my old mate we all know as the Skip Rat who, despite his retirement and dodgy knees, still manages to have a stall here and there when it's warm and sunny. We had many years travelling around together and bagging some great bargains in the 'good old days'. He was having a much needed clear out of a load of transport related books and selling them all at bargain basement prices. Despite being over run with books myself I simply couldn't resist splashing out a couple of quid to bag a splendid copy of *World of Model Railways* which has a stunning shot of that mighty A3 locomotive 60105 'Victor Wild' steaming out of a tunnel at Potters Bar filling the front of its dust jacket. Published by Percival Marshall in 1960 this annual was aimed at young budding model railway enthusiasts and although still very entrenched in the world of steam there were some signs of changes ahead. These were most clearly shown in adverts for the new TRIX Twin range which included its latest diesel hydraulic offering BR Class 42 D801 'The Warship'. Times definitely were a changing.

Still on the subject of vintage transport memorabilia a lovely old enamel bus stop sign caught my eye on a stall at a steam rally and I happily managed to negotiate a deal which saw me bag it for what I thought was a very reasonable £48. It used the word RAILLESS which was one of the descriptions used for trolley buses which often ran on the overhead wires previously used by trams. Another

term also used was 'Trackless'. I later identified this sign as being used by Nottingham Corporation Public Transport Department. I think I might hang it on the wall and enjoy it for a while before I sell it on.

I always marvel at the way some of the big confectionery companies used such great imagination in producing sweet and toffee tins that were also deemed as toys, many of these were designed as Christmas novelties for children. Mackintosh's really seemed to lead the way in the novelty tin market and I was really lucky to find a fabulous little Noah's Ark at one of the big antique markets held within the shadows of the Malvern Hills. The end platforms of the tin were cleverly designed to fold up and the hinged roof allowed access to the chewy toffees placed inside. It dates from the 1930s and was one of a set of six highly innovative little toffee tins. In excellent condition I was more than happy to hand over the stallholders asking price of £85 for this rare tinplate treasure.

Still on the subject of old tins another little gem to come my way recently was a tiny one ounce sample tin of Davy's delicious teas which I bagged at a big car boot sale in Leicestershire for the bargain price of a fiver. Despite my great efforts I have not managed to discover anything about the origins of this company but judging by the splendid quality of the chromolithography I would guess that this amazing sample tin is almost certainly Victorian. What a fabulous bargain it was for a fiver.

My most nostalgic buy this month was a small button badge I snapped up for a pound from a charity shop which reminded me of my happy days as a member

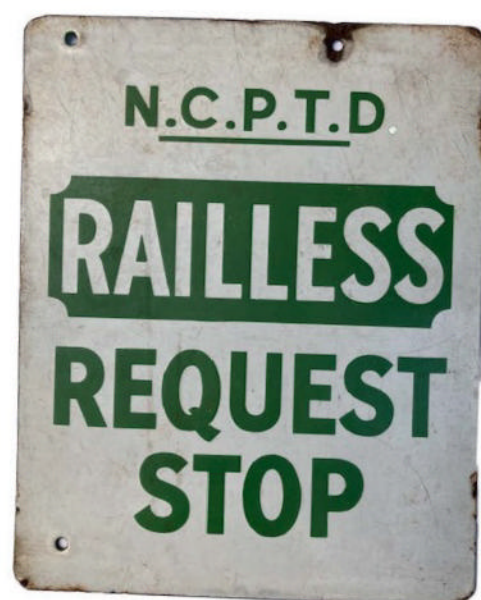
RIGHT

Snapped up from a steam rally this double sided enamel Railless stop sign was used in the streets of Nottingham.

of the Woodcraft Folk. We all met in a function room above the local Cop store on Wednesday evenings to play games and have fun. We also went on camps in summer to learn about the woodlands and countryside. It was a lot more laid back than the Cubs and Scouts with greater emphasis on nature and no religion.

On the selling front a really neat tin and metal model of a classic Norton motorcycle found a new home with a collector who was more than happy with my £15 price tag. It was originally marketed by Lesser & Pavey who have been in business since 1971 producing some great metal models of classic vehicles. I had found it a boot sale with a few camper vans and tractors following a recent house clearance. You have to admire the amount of detail and skill in the making of these all metal creations which are sure to become more and more collectible in future years. Norton was founded by James Lansdowne Norton in 1898 and they produced their first motorcycles in 1902.

A keen Lesley enthusiast was happy to snap a CONDON Dumper for forty quid which was in great nick and with its original driver. Founded by ex-Lesney toolmaker Don Rix and Frank Constable in 1949, CONDON made a few diecast models before production was ended due to the acute zinc shortages during the Korean War.



Still on the subject of Matchbox toys, an ERF Cement Mixer in great condition with a decent box found a new home with a buyer willing to buy it for £38. It would have considerably more if it had been fitted with silver plastic wheels (dream on Oz!).

A plastic Horlicks Spacemen's Club membership badge sold quickly for a healthy £20 to a guy who loves space related memorabilia and had been looking for a good Horlicks badge with an original pin as they often fall out.

Last but not least a lovely old original wooden fairground sign that had once been used on a hoopla stall sold for £65. You can always tell whether old fairground signs are right or not by the standard of the hand rendered lettering which was of such high quality years ago compared to the inferior reproductions that have flooded the market in recent times.

Well, that's about all for this month folks. Enjoy the all the lovely summer sun whilst out and about hunting treasures and, as always, be lucky. **CG**

RIGHT

This delightful little Mackintosh Noah's Ark toffee tin was one of a series of six novelty tins with clever moving parts.

**BELOW**

Produced by CONDON Toys in 1949 this dumper had a shortened production run due to the shortages of zinc during the Korean War.

**ABOVE**

Not all that old but really well constructed and detailed, this metal model of a Norton motorcycle is one of a range made by Lesser and Pavey.

LEFT

Entering the Matchbox range in 1956 this ERF cement mixer proved extremely popular and remained in production for five years.

**BELOW**

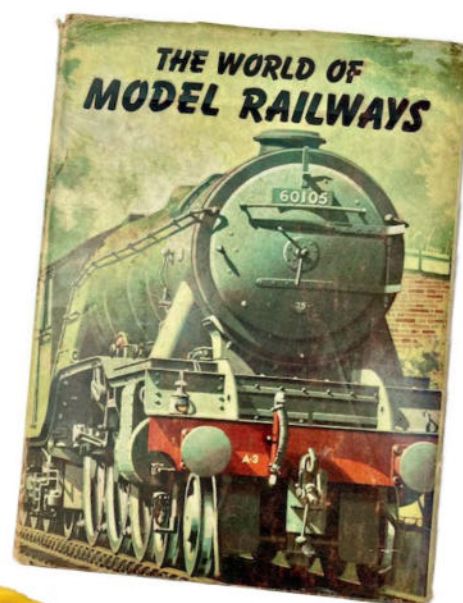
This lovely old World of Model Railways annual dates from 1960 when diesel locomotives were still being developed and introduced by British Railways.

**ABOVE**

These tiny badges were issued to children who joined the Woodcraft Folk which was connected to the Co-operative Society.

**ABOVE**

Dating from Victorian times this stunning Davy's Tea sample tin was an amazing buy for a fiver... lucky old Oz once again!

**LEFT**

The quality of the lettering denotes this sign as a truly original piece of fairground memorabilia. Beware of reproductions!

**LEFT**

These plastic badges were issued to members of the Horlick's Spaceman's Club during the 1950s. This one sold for twenty pounds.

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- **Port Sunlight**, James & Jackson Events, 07967 681080/07904 777605
- **Tenterden**, SRP Fairs, 07739 998012/07498 912091
- **Spalding**, J & J Fairs, 01522 880383
- **Potters Bar**, Joe Lock, 07866 641215

27 JULY

- **Brentwood**, J & J Fairs, 01522 880383

28 JULY

- **Gateshead**, Jim Corr, 07504 035955

30 JULY

- **Garstang**, Kevin Wright, 07908 494097

8 AUGUST

- **Theydon Bois**, Joe Lock, 07866 641215

10 AUGUST

- **Ludlow**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773/07825 631323

17 AUGUST

- **Oxford**, Richard Atkins, 01869 347489

18 AUGUST

- **Llangollen**, James & Jackson Events, 07967 681080/07904 777605
- **Kidderminster**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773/07825 631323

- **Orpington**, SRP Toy Fairs, 07739 998012/07498 912091

26 AUGUST

- **York**, Jim Corr, 07504 035955

AUCTIONS

24 JULY

- **Leyburn**, Tennants Auctioneers, 01969 623780

27 JULY

- **Kings Langley**, Excalibur Auctions, 02036 330913

29 JULY

- **Runcorn**, British Toy Auctions, 01928 579032

6 AUGUST

- **Runcorn**, British Toy Auctions, 01928 579032

8 AUGUST

- **Sheffield**, Sheffield Auction Gallery, 0114 2816161

17 AUGUST

- **Bury St Edmunds**, Lacy, Scott & Knight, 01284 748625

19 AUGUST

- **Runcorn**, British Toy Auctions, 01928 579032

23 AUGUST

- **Bury St Edmunds**, Lacy, Scott & Knight, 01284 748625

29 AUGUST

- **Newbury**, Special Auction Services, 01635 580595

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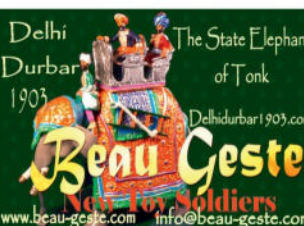
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