

PRICE GUIDE: LATEST AUCTION RESULTS



DIECAST

C O L L E C T O R

THE UK'S ONLY DIECAST MAGAZINE

£5.49 • January 2023 • Issue 303 • www.ccofgb.co.uk

**ALL THE
LATEST NEWS**



The world CHAMPS!

Celebrating the 60th anniversary
of BRM's title success and 50 years
since its last Grand Prix win

ALSO INSIDE...



- The Lone Star Legacy
- Porsche Racing Transporters
- Aquaman by Hot Wheels
- Majorette Monster Trucks
- Workbench projects latest

50
NEW MODELS
REVIEWED!

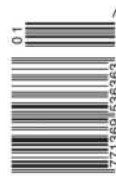
» FIAT ABARTH 2000 BY PININFARINA

The amazing one-off concept
car has been modelled many
times in diecast

» DETAILING THE CORGI YEARS

Our year-by-year series
returns with a look at all the
new releases from 1964

Price: £5.49



WARNERS
GROUP PUBLICATIONS
Display until 3/01/23

EXCALIBUR AUCTIONS

THE COLLECTABLES AUCTION HOUSE



The TOGMAC Collection Part 2
(1:43 scale model cars)
Saturday 14th January 2023
Model Railways & Vintage Toys
Saturday 28th January 2023

hello@excaliburauctions.com T: 020 3633 0913 www.excaliburauctions.com

16 Abbots Business Park, Primrose Hill, Kings Langley WD4 8FR

DIECAST COLLECTOR

EDITORIAL

Publisher Claire Ingram

claire.ingram@warnersgroup.co.uk

Editor Rick Wilson

rick.wilson@warnersgroup.co.uk

Editorial Design Cathy Herron

Editorial Assistance Katy Burrows

Editorial Contributors

David Pullen, Richard Carlson, Steven Downes,

Francisco Mota, Michael Driver, Brian Gower,

Mike Pigott, Andrew Ralston, Rick Wilson,

Stephen Paul Hardy, James Robertshaw, Kevin

Brock, John Tailby

Photography Rick Wilson

Marketing Manager

Katherine Brown Tel: 01778 395092

katherine.brown@warnersgroup.co.uk

Marketing Executive

Luke Hider Tel: 01778 395085

luke.hider@warnersgroup.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Advertising Manager

Kristina Green Tel: 01778 392096

kristina.green@warnersgroup.co.uk

Advertising Production Manager

Nicola Glossop Tel: 01778 392420

nicola.glossop@warnersgroup.co.uk

Advertising Production Assistant

Charlotte Bamford Tel: 01778 395081

charlotte.bamford@warnersgroup.co.uk

News Trade Distribution

Warners Group Distribution Ltd

Tel: 01778 391150

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions hotline 01778 392006

Subscription rates starting from:

UK and BFPO £12.99

Europe & Eire Airmail £18.99

Worldwide Airmail £19.99

Digital subscriptions are available from

£12.99 – visit pktmags.com/dccsubs22

for more information

Can't find a copy in the shops?

Order your copy online at

www.ccofgb.co.uk

CONTACT

Write to us at:

Diecast Collector, Warners Group

Publications plc, The Maltings, West Street,

Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH.

Website: www.diecast-collector.co.uk

www.collectors-club-of-great-britain.co.uk

Printing Warners Midlands plc

Tel: 01778 395100



This publication is printed
by Warners Midlands PLC
Telephone: 01778 391000

DISCLAIMER

All material published remains the copyright of Warners Group Publications Plc, no part of this magazine may be published without the prior permission of the publisher. Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily the views of the editor or publisher and the greatest care has been taken to ensure accuracy, but the publishers cannot accept responsibility for omissions or errors.

While we take every care, we cannot accept liability for loss or damage to contributed copy/ material and the large volume of enquiries means not all correspondence can be replied to personally. Competition winners' details are available from the editorial address; please enclose SAE with your enquiry.

While every care is taken when accepting advertisements, we cannot accept responsibility for unsatisfactory transactions. We will however investigate any complaints.

Data Protection – Warners Group Publications Plc may lend reputable companies the names & addresses of readers who have responded to offers, services and competitions organised by Diecast Collector magazine. If you do not wish to receive such mailings, please write or phone us at the given address.

Contents

January 2023 • Issue 303

04 News and events
What's happening in the world of diecast collecting.

08 What's New
Seven pages of new model reviews.

18 New Model Spotlight
Stephen Paul Hardy assesses another new batch.

22 Off to the races
Francisco Mota looks at a trio of Porsche's transporters.

28 Lone Star's lost legacy
James Robertshaw tells the amazing story of a recent fascinating discovery.

32 Concept-driven
Kevin Brock investigates the history and diecasts of the Fiat Abarth 2000 by Pininfarina.

38 King of the seven seas
Mike Pigott goes deep with Aquaman and a pair of Hot Wheels diecasts.

40 Workbench
Hints, tips and restoration project updates.

42 The playground racers
John Tailby remembers some early diecast racing cars and, in particular, those of BRM.

45 From the editor's collection
A pair of BRM racers that commemorate special events.

48 Power Trax Super Trucks
Majorette models free with Kellogg's cereals, by Mike Pigott.



52

52 The Corgi Years: 1964
Rick Wilson charts the releases for the year by Corgi.

57 Diecast Collector 2022 index
Our handy one-stop guide to all the articles in the 2022 issues.

60 Collecting by numbers
Matchbox Lesney Superfast #30.

62 Desert Island Diecasts
Regular Diecast Collector contributor, David Wright, is this month's castaway.

64 Vintage Dinky
DTCA Chairman, Michael Driver, picks another old favourite.

67 Auction news
Highlights around the auction rooms and online.

68 Price Guide
Value your collection.

72 ToyFair Times
News of upcoming events and fairs.

73 Off the beaten track
Andrew Ralston delves into the contents of an intriguing box.

74 Dear Editor
Your chance to get your questions answered.

77 Signing off
Stephen Paul Hardy measures up some models for size.

77 Next month
A sneak peek at what's in the next issue.

78 The last word
Brian Gower gets crafty with a favourite aunt.



22



32



ONE OFF PAYMENT SUBSCRIPTION OFFER!

Turn to page 7 to find out more...

News & Events

Here's a round-up of the latest hobby news and events.

LAST FEW PROFESSIONALS RS2000 LEFT!

THE fabulous Ford Escort RS2000, as it appeared in *The Professionals* and commissioned by Diecast Collector subscriber, Tony Buller, through Corgi Premiums has very nearly sold out. The production run was a limited edition of 1,045 models of the famous car, complete with the correct registration number (PNO 641T) and a replica GB sticker on the boot lid lip.

It comes in a stunning box featuring artwork from Corgi, with series-related graphics and a spray of bullet holes, and the interior depicts a run-down warehouse – a typical scene to find some unscrupulous criminals hiding their loot in.

There will be a review in the next issue, but, in the meantime, don't get caught red-handed without one – drop Tony an email at professionalmania@hotmail.com. ■



NEW PRE-WAR ROVER TRIO FROM BHM

BRITISH Heritage Models has added a trio of 1939 Rover P2 6-light saloons to its Majesty Classics range. Model reference MC 01TT is available in three different two-tone colourschemes – maroon/grey, coffee/cream, or black/red. Price is £89.99 each + £4.99 each UK P&P.

BHM's website can be found at www.britishheritagemodels.co.uk. For more information, call BHM on 01244 320761 or email bhm-uk@talktalk.net. ■

READY FOR AN ADVENTURE WITH SOLIDO'S NEW MEHARI

JUST launched is a pair of fabulous, 1/18 scale diecasts of the incredible Citroën Mehari, by Solido. Initially released in the vibrant orange shown here as No S1808201, it is also available in an equally bright green, with the top down, as S1808202.

In production between 1968 and 1987, 140,000 of these amazing utility vehicles were made. Based on the mechanical underpinnings of the 2CV and the Ami, the ABS plastic body tub has ensured that many have survived to this day. But don't expect to find one cheap – a 1/18 scale model is much better value. For more information and imagery, visit www.solido.com and contact your preferred retailer to order. ■



GET MOVING WITH THE NEW RELEASES FROM MATCHBOX



MATCHBOX'S premium Moving Parts range has begun to appear in Poundland stores at the superb value price of just £2.50 each. Packaged in bright new-style blister packs, each diecast miniature has an opening part or a moving feature. There are 50 new Moving Parts models to collect and pictured here are a wonderfully cute FC Jeep with tipping rear body (No 13 in the range) and the awesome retro Ford GT, harking back to the original Lesney release, complete with #6 bonnet stripe (No 7). The Ford also has an opening rear engine cover. ■

NEW RAMSAY'S 18TH EDITION

NOW in its 18th edition, Ramsay's British Diecast Model Toys Catalogue is brought to you by a team of experts who have scoured thousands of auction results over the past three years to ensure you have all the updated market value prices.

With over 19,000 listings, this catalogue remains the benchmark for all price guides, and is a must for anyone collecting vintage diecast models.

Keeping the same easy-to-use format that has proved popular for previous editions, whether it's Dinky Toys, Corgi or Matchbox, or you desire to seek out models from the more unusual or smaller manufacturers such as Brimtoy, Charbens, Cherilea, and others, this has it all!

Priced at just £29.99, with free UK delivery (European delivery is £5, Worldwide is £7) you can get your copy by going direct to the publishers at www.ccofgb.co.uk, or by getting in touch with your preferred Ramsay's retailer. ■



Welcome



VOTE FOR CORGI! THE NEXT CORGI MODEL CLUB RELEASE IS NEARLY HERE

THE next reproduction from the Corgi Model Club (that should be about to begin to arrive with early subscribers by the time that you read this) is No 472 Land Rover Public Address Vehicle. Shown here is the factory pre-production sample, which is pretty close to the model that will be on its way soon – doesn't it look great?

Released in the run up to the 1964 election, the Corgi Model Club explains that there's an interesting back story to this quirky and very 1960s Corgi. Some would say that the main electioneering figure (who swivels on his base, thus allowing him to perform u-turns!) is very much from an earlier period of political history. When Corgi initially proposed modelling this Land Rover, with its roof-mounted speakers, it was going to do two versions – one in red and another in blue. Thankfully, Corgi decided not to stick its hands in that particular hornet's nest and wisely came up with the "Vote for Corgi" concept instead.

The model was available for only a relatively short period and mint condition originals, complete with both figures, are highly sought after. Corgi later utilised the tooling for a Chipperfield's Circus vehicle ~ the politician and canvasser figures rather cheekily being replaced by a clown and a monkey!

Even if you're not a subscriber, you can buy any of the releases so far (subject to stock) as a standalone purchase. To find out more, visit the club's website at www.corgimodelclub.com. ■

DID YOU KNOW WE ARE MORE THAN JUST A MAGAZINE?



www.ccofgb.co.uk



[www.twitter.com/CollectorClubGB](https://twitter.com/CollectorClubGB)



www.facebook.com/CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain/



www.instagram.com/ccofgb



www.youtube.com/CollectorsClubofGB



▲ Rick Wilson, Editor

WRITE TO THE EDITOR...

If you want to write a letter for publication in *Diecast Collector*, you can contact Rick on rick.wilson@warnersgroup.co.uk

Do you want the good news, or the bads news first? It's that age-old problem - lead with the positivity and hope the negative slope is less steep, or hit 'em hard and bring it back with the niceness. Or we could go for that old job review technique, known affectionately as the disgusting sandwich, or something like that - nice bit first (bread) then the nasty bit (bad news filling) and another nice bit.

Thankfully, we have plenty of nice 'bread' this month, so I'll go for the latter format and start with some tasty morsels first. We have another packed issue for you this month, rammed with terrific tales and evocative memories of diecasts past. Starting with our cover model, it is 60 years since Graham Hill scored a memorable win in his BRM at a thrilling South African Grand Prix, on 29th December, to wrestle the driver's title from Jim Clark. It's also just over 50 years since BRM scored its last GP win at a rain-soaked Monaco. We have some other vintage diecast racers on hand too.

Additionally, a recent discovery of a legacy for Lone Star in Pakistan makes for a fascinating read. With plenty more to give you reason to stay in your comfy armchair as winter nears, including the return of The Corgi Years, that's your first slice.

Now onto the bad taste in the middle - we've just heard that, sadly, one of our favourite manufacturers has ceased trading. DNA Collectibles had quickly earned itself an impressive reputation for accuracy and quality. Personally, I'm devastated as the team members were so passionate about their craft. I'll miss our happy, chatty meet up at Nuremberg.

Which brings me to that final slice, another nice bit. Nuremberg is officially on and I simply can't wait to get back there on 1st February to see all the great new stuff we can expect for 2023.

DIECAST
COLLECTOR

Collectors Club
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Diecast Collector is part of www.ccofgb.co.uk

A BONNIE NEW BUS FROM NMC'S EXTENSIVE DEPOT



CONTINUING the significant success of its 1/76 scale Alexander Dennis Enviro400 MMC, Northcord Model Company is now releasing a seventeenth livery on the 10.9 metre long, single-door casting – UK6527 in the livery of Stagecoach North Scotland. UK6527 represents fleet number 11173 (SK19 ECU) that was new to Stagecoach North Scotland in early 2019 – 11173 was one of fifteen new Alexander Dennis Enviro400 MMC SmartHybrid double-deckers deployed at Macduff depot for service 35 (Aberdeen-Banff / Elgin) by April 2019.

The model carries a colourfully-branded livery for service 35, heading to Macduff, and onto Aberdeen. The comprehensive livery and branding are fully reproduced on the new model.

The branding features large "SERVICE 35" and "GET A BONNIE VIEW / FAE THE TOP DECK" text, together with an icon illustration on both sides, along with key locations served "35, ABERDEEN, BANFF, ELGIN" on the upper deck windows to both sides. Further branding on each side includes "TOP UK DEPOT FOR ECO DRIVING MACDUFF 2016 2017 2018 2019". The wording on the main side, upper panels within the advert frames is phrased with reference to the "Doric", the famous and iconic dialect associated with the north-east of Scotland.

NMC's Alexander Dennis Enviro400 MMC is a one-piece casting with clean lines that accentuate the square, gasket-mounted windows and the livery application on which all logos and lettering are clearly legible. Another feature is the single tree protector at the front. The front dome on the model is significant, with curved windscreens on both upper deck and lower deck.

Northcord Model Company is also creating new design standards within the interior of both saloons. These features, inside the compartments, will represent the real, outstanding layout of the Enviro400 MMC, such as the extensive portrayal of handrails on upper deck and lower deck, etc.

For wholesale enquiries, contact John Ayrey's at www.ayrey.co.uk or, for retail options, contact your preferred outlet. ■

**CORGI'S BRAND NEW
SPITFIRE IS NEARLY
READY TO TAKE TO
THE SKIES**

LANDING very soon will be Corgi's much-anticipated and newly-tooled No AA29101 Supermarine Spitfire Mk.IX MK329 JE-J of W/Cdr. J.E. Johnson, wearing full D-Day identification markings. Due in the first quarter of 2023, the model, priced at £59.99, can be pre-ordered online at uk.corgi.co.uk or through your preferred retailer.

**NEW RELEASES FROM NZG
ANNOUNCED AT BAUMA 2022**

THE world-leading construction and mining machinery trade fair, Bauma, saw NZG announce new models from Hamm, Wirtgen, Kleemann and Vögele, plus a new concrete pump from Schwing. Of course Liebherr is also represented again with several new models. Additionally, NZG has just confirmed the arrival of its superb new diecast Mercedes-Benz EQS executive saloon in 1/18 scale. With opening front and back doors, and boot, highly-detailed interior, slidable seats and steerable front wheels, it is packed with features. See www.nzg.de or contact your preferred retailer.

**BRITISH CLASSICS COMING FROM
MATRIX SCALE MODELS**

MIKE COUPE of Spa Croft Models (www.spacraftmodels.co.uk) tells us that Matrix has models of new classic British cars from Ford, Triumph and Rover in production. Full details, photos and prices next month.

**CORGI AND OXFORD DIECAST
COLLABORATE FOR FREE TAXI
MODEL OFFER**

SPEND £30 or more on in-stock items at uk.corgi.co.uk and receive a free LEVC TX5 Electric London Taxi No 43TX5001 (subject to availability). The free item (usual RRP is £18.95) will be automatically added to the basket when the total exceeds the £30 threshold - (excluding the price of delivery). Only one free item can be applied per order, but customers can make multiple separate orders.

DNA COLLECTIBLES

AS we were closing to go to print, recent rumours circulating on social media were confirmed with the sad news that the company behind one of our favourite brands, DNA Collectibles, has ceased trading. At the moment, there is a lot of confusion and speculation surrounding any pre-orders. The company that makes the models for DNA in China is trying to secure the rights to continue as there are several models that were very close to release and it has a huge stock almost ready to go.



SUCCESS IS ASSURED FOR CORGI'S NEW TRANSIT

MICHAEL Clegg reveals in his latest instalment of *Diecast Diaries*, on Corgi's website, that the company's new Ford Transit tooling is coming along beautifully. "The launch of our May to August 2022 model range earlier this year, included details of the continued new tooling investment in our Vanguards range of 1/43rd scale die-cast vehicles and confirmation of a project which would see several related and rather significant new models joining the collection in the not too distant future.

"And this is the first time that images of these prototype models have been published outside of the company and have been produced by a specialist prototyping company using the new Ford Transit Custom CAD files."

We look forward to seeing further details of these future model releases. Find out more at www.corgi.co.uk. ■

SPECIAL OFFER! ONE OFF PAYMENT SUBSCRIPTION

- ☒ No commitment
- ☒ Save Money
- ☒ Receive 12 monthly issues



HOW TO GET YOURS...



All you have to do is return the form opposite to the free post address below:

FREE POST
WARNERS GROUP PUBLICATIONS
THE MALTINGS, WEST STREET,
BOURNE, LINCS, PE10 9PH

For a faster service,
subscribe by Debit or Credit
card at www.ccofgb.co.uk



Detach along dotted perforation, fold, and return to free post address. Thank you!



MY DETAILS

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Initial(s)

Surname

Address

Postcode

Please enter me in a one-year subscription to Diecast Collector magazine, and send me 12 monthly issues for:

☐ £55 (UK) ☐ £83 (EU) ☐ £100 (RW)

☐ Cheque or money enclosed (made payable to Warners Group Publications)

☐ Please give me a call

☐ Please debit my VISA / Mastercard / Maestro

CARD DETAILS

Card number:

Valid from: Issue No:

Expiry date: CVV No:

Signature

Date

We'd like to let you know about our latest offers.

If you do not wish to receive direct mail from the publisher please tick here ☐

If you do not wish to receive direct mail from selected third parties please tick here ☐

Email

I am happy to receive special offers via email from:

Warners Group Publications ☐ Selected third parties ☐

Telephone

I am happy to receive special offers via telephone from:

Warners Group Publications ☐ Selected third parties ☐

For information on how your personal data is processed, secured and your rights, our Privacy Policy can be viewed at warners.gr/privacy or available in hard copy on request. Your order will be processed in accordance with our Terms of Sale which can be viewed at warners.gr/termssale or available in hard copy on request.

WHAT'S new

Our team of experts take a look at this month's model releases, including fine handbuilt replicas, scale construction and the latest in farm models.



OXFORD DIECAST'S NEW SMALL-SCALE RANGE IS ALL SET TO MAKE THE BIG TIME

1/120 scale

OXFORD DIECAST

Austin Low Loader Taxi black, Dennis F12 Pump Escape London Fire, Land Rover Series 2 LWB Hard Top British Railways, Scammell Mechanical Horse Flat Trailer GWR, Morris 1000 British Railways, Bedford OB Coach British Railways

PRICE: £7.45 - £7.95

REF NO: 120AT001, 120DEN001, 120LAN2001, 120MH003, 120MM059, 120OB001

www.oxforddiecast.co.uk

OXFORD DIECAST'S superb brand new range of 1/120 scale vehicles, announced in conjunction with Hornby's new TT:120 line, are wonderfully-engineered models, made from both diecast and plastic components.

These six brand new releases have all been modelled by Oxford in its other scales, such as N (1/148) and OO (1/76), so the company knows that they will be popular with rail enthusiasts. Oxford will no doubt be adding to this line-up on a continuous basis.

Austin Low Loader Taxi - black (120AT001, £7.45):

This Low Loader first appeared in 1934 and became an instant success, due mainly to its very attractive price, as well as being very reliable. Taxi fleets often had their own paint scheme and the Austin LL taxi-cab appeared in several colours, but the most popular was black.

Dennis F12 Pump Escape - London Fire Brigade (120DEN001, £7.95):

Dennis started producing the F series of fire engines in

1946, with the F12 being the most popular. In those days, its construction comprised a wooden frame with an aluminium skin. It was used widely throughout the UK.

Land Rover Series 2 LWB Hard Top - British Rail (120LAN2001, £7.45):

The Series II Land Rover was manufactured from 1958 until 1961. Coming in short (SWB) and long wheelbases (LWB) with numerous body combinations including fixed roofs, canvas roofs, open tops, station wagons.

Scammell Mechanical Horse Flat Trailer - GWR (120MH003, £7.95):

Scammell first introduced its 'Mechanical Horse' in the UK in 1934. From the late 1920s, railway companies had been searching for a vehicle to replace

the horse-drawn carriage. The mechanical horse was operated by all the major railways (such as GWR, modelled here).

Morris 1000 - British Rail (120MM059, £7.45):

The ubiquitous Morris 1000 Van makes its latest appearance in the very popular British Railways crimson and cream colour scheme. The British Railways totem features on the sides and front of the van.

Bedford OB Coach - British Rail (120OB001, £7.95):

The Bedford OB Coach chassis was introduced in 1939. Only 73 were built prior to World War II, but it reappeared in an unchanged form at the end of the war. Production ran until 1950, during which time over 12,500 were made, making it one of the most popular buses of its type. **DC**



▲ The three British Railways-liveried vehicles - Bedford OB Coach, Land Rover Series 2 LWB Hard Top and Morris 1000.

▲ Left to right: Dennis F12 Pump Escape London Fire, Scammell Mechanical Horse GWR and Austin Low Loader Taxi.

THIS MONTH'S IN-DEPTH REVIEWS:

8 The exciting new range of 1/120 scale releases by Oxford Diecast, perfect for TT model railway layouts.

16 EDITOR'S CHOICE - KK-Scale's 1949 Le Mans 24 Hours-winning Ferrari 166 MM Barchetta, beautifully recreated in 1/18 diecast.



IXO

Porsche 911 RSR #56 2019 Le Mans 24 Hours LMGTE-Am class winner

SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £91.99 REF: LEGT18027

www.ayrey.co.uk

An absolutely incredible replication of the 2019 LMGTE-Am class winner - just look at those graphics. The real car looked amazing and Ixo has done a superb job.



DIECAST MASTERS

Caterpillar 966A Wheel Loader "Vintage Series"

SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: £TBA REF: 85579

www.diecastconstruction.co.uk

A new range of vintage models that starts with the classic Cat 966A wheel loader, which is presented on a base with self-fit umbrella and in quality packaging.



BRITAINS

Massey Ferguson 6290 Tractor Set

SCALE: 1/32 PRICE: £34.99

REF: 43335

www.britainsfarmtoys.co.uk

For this new heritage set Britains has included its Massey Ferguson 6290 tractor and folding cultivator from its back catalogue.



NZG

Mercedes-Benz Arocs 8x4 Tipper

SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: 109.00 €

REF: 1066/20

www.nzg-shop.eu

Features mirror cams, steering front axles, a Meiller brand tipping dump body and pivoting tailgate. Finished in blue and also available in white or silver grey.

New Models



IXO

Lada 2105 VFTS #9 Rallye WM Rallye Neuseeland 1985 Brundza/Dadvani
SCALE: 1/43 **PRICE:** £47.99 **REF:** RAC396

www.ayrey.co.uk

A wonderfully evocative release of this much-admired rally car from the mid-1980s. Excellent tampo-printed graphics and super detailing.



AUTOCULT

Renault Type MH6 Roues - ivory
SCALE: 1/43 **PRICE:** £122.99
REF: ATC 11016

www.ayrey.co.uk

Absolutely stunning model of this amazing early Renault. The detail and finish is off the charts and the replication is exquisite throughout.



BBURAGO

Lamborghini Essenza SCV12
SCALE: 1/32 **PRICE:** £18.99
REF: B18-41161

www.oneforfun.com

Really nice model of this striking vehicle, well-finished in its outrageous colour scheme, with well-executed tampo printing of the accent lines.



BBURAGO

Porsche Taycan
SCALE: 1/24 **PRICE:** £17.99
REF: B18-21098

www.oneforfun.com

Superb value replica of Porsche 4-door masterpiece, with opening doors, excellent finish and wonderfully-detailed wheels, with brake callipers visible.



BBURAGO

1982 Ford Capri
SCALE: 1/24 **PRICE:** £17.99
REF: B18-21093BK

www.oneforfun.com

Nicely-finished model of the Capri Mk3 2.8 injection, with opening doors and a good level of detail. The pepperpot wheels are especially worthy of a mention.



NZG

Baljer Zembrod Material Handler
SCALE: 1/50 **PRICE:** 159.00 €
REF: 1045

www.nzg-shop.eu

An interesting introduction of an industrial semi-mobile material handler with detachable cabin, height-adjustable stabilisers and two work tools.



SIKU

John Deere 6175R Tractor Set
SCALE: 1/32 **PRICE:** £62.99
REF: 3838

www.siku.de

This John Deere playset includes Siku's 6175R tractor, 990 round baler, driver and bale lifter. There are also two round bales provided.



BRITAINS

Kane 16 Tonne Grain Trailer
SCALE: 1/32 **PRICE:** £24.99
REF: 342701A1

www.britainsfarmtoys.co.uk

Britains has reissued its tandem axle tipping trailer and given it grey wheel rims. It has a sprung drawbar, opening rear door and steerable rear wheels.

MANCHETTS

Rescue & Recovery



Limited Edition

MANCHETTS model Volvo FMX

Manchett's Recovery customised promotional model truck, a 1:50 scale Volvo FMX (6x4) heavy recovery truck is now available to buy.

Commissioned to mark the occasion of Manchett's Recovery's 60th anniversary in 2021, the models are produced exclusively for Search Impex by WSI Models as a certificated Limited Edition and will be delivered in a bespoke window display box.

Manchett's original company was started in 1961 by George Manchett with mainly agricultural and machinery repairs and a small amount of motor fuel sales at the now head office in Burwell Cambridgeshire. Now a 4th generation family business the group of companies encompasses everything automotive with car and commercial dealerships, an accident repair centre and vehicle recovery.



Manchett's Recovery in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk specialise in damage free recovery. Company Director Sean Manchett believes in investing in bespoke

equipment such as the JCB Fast Trac with Syren heavy winching equipment for off road winching and the Mercedes Unimog with bespoke winch and bodywork by Syron. A Foden 6x6, a Scania R480 rotator crane and more recently a Volvo FMX 6x4 fitted with Falkom equipment and body styling by Johan Van der Zand from Holland are all noteworthy specialist recovery vehicles to be found within this impressive fleet. The team of technicians and operators that run and take care of these vehicles are passionate about them and the job they do.

Manchett's Rescue and Recovery provide 24/7 cover for all vehicle breakdown solutions across Cambridgeshire and Suffolk and also boast the brightest green and yellow livery in East Anglia! They have a fleet of over fifty commercial and light recovery vehicles, ranging from service vans and car recovery vehicles to heavy duty low loaders, crane rotator recovery vehicles and specialist off road winching units. They service police and fire department contracts in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire, as well as facilitating nationwide recovery, the AA, RAC, Greenflag, Britannia Rescue and all the major insurance backed organisations.

The models are £146 each, which includes VAT. Delivery is by special delivery Royal Mail £8.95.

**For details of availability please email
mandy@manchett's.co.uk or call on 07375 112 344**

New Models



IXO
RAF 2203 support vehicle with roof rack - Autoexport Rallye Team
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £47.99 REF: RAC395

www.ayrey.co.uk

Making an excellent companion to the Lada rally car reviewed on page 10, this RAF support vehicle is beautifully-finished and detailed.



AUTOCULT
Škoda 932 - black
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £111.99
REF: ATC 06052

www.ayrey.co.uk

Exquisite replica of the incredibly cute Škoda 932 from the early 1930s. Wonderful finish throughout with a superbly-detailed interior.



BBURAGO
Ferrari Roma
SCALE: 1/24 PRICE: £20.99
REF: B18-26029

www.oneforfun.com

Stunning finish is a real highlight of this amazing value replica. With opening doors and front hood, a good level of hidden detail is revealed too. A real beauty.



KAIDO HOUSE X MINI GT
Datsun 510 Pro Street - GReddy - Pearl White (LHD)
SCALE: 1/64 PRICE: £19.99 REF: MGTKHMG016

www.ayrey.co.uk

The collaboration between MINI GT and Kaido House continues with another version of the Datsun 510, superbly finished with subtle GReddy graphics.



MAISTO
1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £46.99
REF: M31453

www.oneforfun.com

With opening doors, bonnet and boot, this well-finished replica has plenty of detail and features for the price, and a great set of wheel rims too.



NZG
Wirtgen 220 SM 3.8 Surface Miner
SCALE: 1/350 PRICE: 159.00 €
REF: 1036

www.nzg-shop.eu

With a detailed cabin and folding access ladder, it offers steerable and height adjustable track frames, rotating cutter drum and opening rear panel.



NZG
Mercedes-Benz Actros GigaSpace 4x2 Tractor
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: 319.00 € REF: 1024/66

www.nzg-shop.eu

The latest update includes daytime running lights and tail lights with steering axle, tilting cabin and opening doors. Finished in a champagne colour.



IMC
Nooteboom Super Wing Carrier "Mammoet"
SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: 319.00 € REF: 410270

www.mammoetstore.com

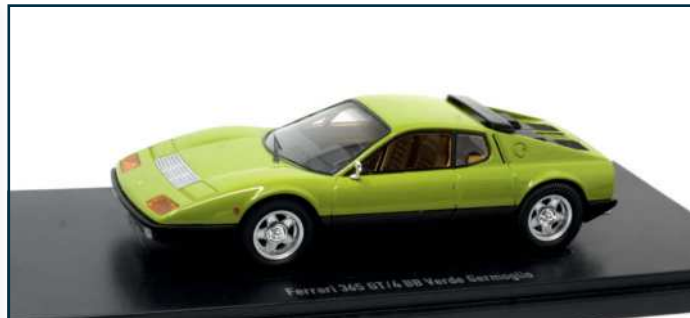
For the transportation of super long windmill blades, extending to over 1.2 metres in length. With a Mercedes-Benz Actros 8x4 tractor in Mammoet livery.



IXO
Subaru Impreza S5 WRC #3 1997 RAC Rally - 25 years - C.McRae/N.Grist
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £47.99 REF: RAC390A

www.ayrey.co.uk

Marking the 25th anniversary of the win on the RAC Rally, this replica of Colin McRae's and Nicky Grist's winner is a poignant tribute and is superbly finished.



AUTOCULT
Ferrari 365 BB Verde Germoglio
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £114.99
REF: ATC 90196

www.ayrey.co.uk

Ferrari's sublime Berlinetta Boxer looks even better in this wonderful colour and is perfectly replicated by AutoCult. Faultless throughout - a truly top-notch model.



KAIDO HOUSE X MINI GT
Datsun 510 Pro Street - Greddy - Gun Metal Grey (LHD)
SCALE: 1/64 PRICE: £19.99 REF: MGTKHMG017

www.ayrey.co.uk

Finished in metallic gun metal grey, this fabulous little model sits superbly alongside its sibling (see left). Again superbly finished with great detail too..



MAISTO
2019 Mercedes Benz G-Class AMG
SCALE: 1/24 PRICE: £17.99
REF: M31531

www.oneforfun.com

The superb and seemingly-everlasting G-Wagen represents excellent value here, with a beautiful, deep metallic paint job and opening doors.



NZG
Wirtgen SP64i Slipform Paver
SCALE: 1/350 PRICE: 169.00 €
REF: 1038

www.nzg-shop.eu

An impressive model packed with detail, featuring adjustable supports and steering track frames, work station with printed controls, walkways and sliding leveller.



BBURAGO
Ferrari SF90 Spider
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £59.99
REF: B18-16016

www.oneforfun.com

Exquisite replica of this outrageous Ferrari, with a stunning paint finish throughout and plenty of detail to the interior. Opening doors, rear deck and front hood.



CONRAD
MAN TGX GX 18.580 Tractor
SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: £86.00
REF: ZY.CO800-0009

www.man-shop.eu

Exclusive to MAN, finished in metallic blue, with self-fit mirrors and antennas. It has working steering and a pivoting fifth-wheel to connect up with any Conrad trailer.



IMC
Nootboom Super Wing Carrier
SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: 299.00 €
REF: 594.3347

www.nootboomshop.com

With a Scania XT mid-roof 6x4 tractor, decorated in redline series colours. The 4 times extending trailer is fully configurable for the separately available windmill blade.



December 2022 Auction Dates

Tuesday 6th - Diecast Sale

Wednesday 7th - Dolls & Teddy Bear Sale

Thursday 8th - TV & Film Related Sale

Tuesday 13th - Diecast & Tinsplate Sale

Wednesday 14th - Matchbox Sale

Thursday 15th - General Toy Sale

Friday 16th - Model Train Sale

Auctions commence at 10.00am unless otherwise stated - Dates are correct at time of print but are subject to change

Corgi 268 Pre-production
The Green Hornet



Catalogues & online bidding at **vectis.co.uk**

Vectis Auctions Head Office
Fleck Way, Thornaby
Stockton-on-Tees, TS17 9JZ
Tel: 01642 750616
admin@vectis.co.uk

Vectis Oxford Office
Unit 3, Hobley Court
North Leigh Business Park
Nursery Road, Witney
Oxfordshire, OX29 6AN
Tel: 01993 709424

Vectis Auctions - The World's Leading Auction House for Collectable Toys



IXO
Mitsubishi Carisma GT Evo IV #2 1997
RAC Rallye - 25 years - R.Burns/R.Reid
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £47.99 REF: RAC392

www.ayrey.co.uk

Another 25th anniversary model that makes a perfect companion to the Subaru reviewed on page 13. Wonderfully-finished throughout, with excellent graphics.



MAISTO
2022 Porsche 911 GT3
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £52.99
REF: M36458

www.oneforfun.com

Oh that sumptuous blue paint job! Gorgeous model of the latest generation of the 911 GT3. Opening doors and front hood reveal some very nice detailing.



MOTORART
K-Tec 1237ADT Towed Scraper
SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: US\$149.00
REF: K3239-DMOD

<https://store.ktec.com>

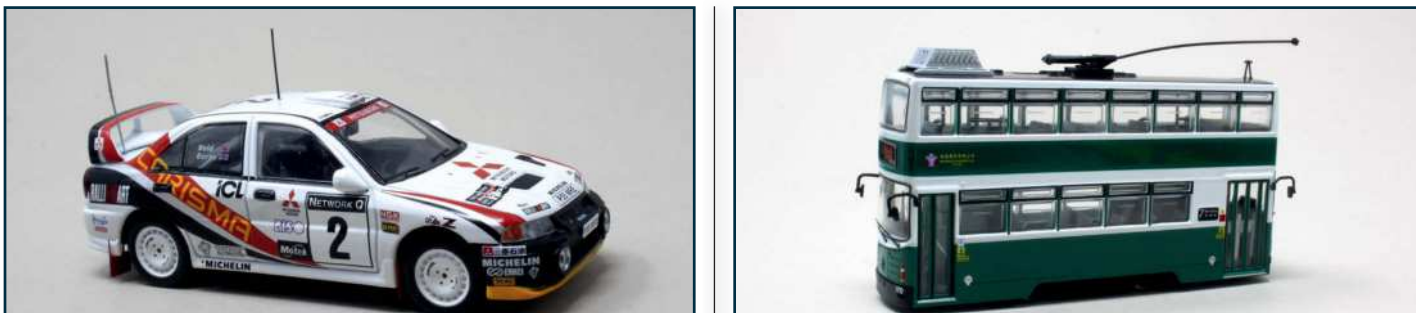
The detachable towed scraper features working ejector, apron and bowl with a coupler for tandem train operation. Paired with a Volvo A54G FS articulated tractor.



BRITAINS
Massey Ferguson 6S.180 Tractor
SCALE: 1/32 PRICE: £27.99
REF: 43316

www.britainsfarmtoys.co.uk

Newly tooled, well-made model tractor with working front and rear linkages, steerable wheels and a detachable glazed cab.



80M BUS MODEL
Hong Kong Tramways Millennium
Tram Route #170
SCALE: 1/76 PRICE: £44.99 REF: EIG TT3101

www.ayrey.co.uk

Yet another lovely tram replica from 80M to add to those reviewed over the previous two issues. These really are superb and great value models, and so well finished.



BBURAGO
2020 Bugatti Bolide W16.4
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £52.99
REF: B18-11047B

www.oneforfun.com

This incredible car makes for a model that is just as impressive. Finished with Bugatti Blue accents (also available in yellow), it features opening doors. 'Superbe!'



MAISTO
Lamborghini Countach LPI 800-4
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £46.99
REF: M31459

www.oneforfun.com

The doors open revealing a well-appointed interior, plus the front hood and rear engine cover also lift up. Excellent paint finish to the great body shape too.



SIKU
New Holland T7.315 Tractor
SCALE: 1/32 PRICE: £33.99
REF: 3291

www.siku.de

Well-engineered largely metal tractor with removable cab, opening bonnet, steerable wheels and working rear linkage. Supplied with both front linkage and bumper.



WSI MODELS

Mercedes-Benz Actros 8x8 with 14-axle Scheuerle Set "ALE"

SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: £299.00 € REF: 410284

www.mammoetstore.com

The Scheuerle set, consisting of a 6-axle line and two 4-axle line modules with drawbar, ballast box and gooseneck is paired with a 4165 Ak SLT 8x8 Tractor.



DIECAST MASTERS

Caterpillar 745 Articulated Dump Truck "Weathered Series"

SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: £TBA REF: 85704

www.diecastconstruction.co.uk

Another release in the weathered series, with muddy appearance and display base. The body and cabin both tip, while the bonnet opens to reveal the engine.

KK-SCALE'S BODACIOUS BARCHETTA TAKES THE WIN

1/18 scale

KK-SCALE

Ferrari 166 MM Barchetta 24h Le Mans 1949 winner

PRICE: £96.99 REF NO: KKS DC180913

www.ayrey.co.uk

AS the racing fraternity was finally coming back to life, after the enforced break of World War II, a new name was emerging. On 15th September 1948, Ferrari unveiled a car for the first time at a motor show. The car revealed at the Turin event was the 166 MM, an open-topped version of the 166 S. The MM moniker was a nod to the Allemano-bodied coupé that had won the 1948 Mille Miglia.

The 1949 24 Hours of Le Mans was the 17th Grand Prix of Endurance, and took place on 25th-26th June 1949. This was the first race held at the circuit following the end of World War II. Even though the war had ended four years before, major infrastructure reconstruction throughout France meant that the return of the race was of secondary concern, and thus was not run until after

France had established itself again. Following the end of the war the circuit needed extensive repairs too. Likewise, in that time, the car manufacturers had also been rebuilding.

The winning car, as modelled here, was driven by Luigi Chinetti (his third overall victory) and Peter Mitchell-Thomson, also known as Lord Selston. Chinetti drove for 22.5

out of the 24 hours in total!

Just released by KK-Scale, this rather fabulous diecast captures the lines of this famous Ferrari very well indeed. The model features flawless paintwork and the simple graphics are perfectly applied too. The sparse interior is very neatly replicated – very important for a model of an open-topped car – and the wire-wheels are an absolute

delight. The only niggles are that the front end number panel is not quite right (the white square should be bigger and run into the white around the grille) and the spotlight is set a smidgeon too low for the model to properly replicate the Le Mans winner. Having said that, this still makes for a stunning display piece. **DC**



◀ The lines of Ferrari's pretty 166 MM Barchetta are perfectly recreated.

We really want your feedback! Do you agree with the Editor's Choice? Let us know your thoughts about this and the other releases at deareditor@warnersgroup.co.uk

CHOPPER Mk II

HIGHLY DETAILED 1:12 SCALE MODEL REPLICA



Infra Red



Ultra Violet

TOYWAY

TW41700

- New die-cast metal frame and chrome plated plastic parts
- Working steering and pedal/chain movement
- PVC vinyl black tyres with detailed tread pattern

BACHMANN
EUROPE PIC

EFE Road

Great British Model Roadways



Commemorating 50 years of the Leyland National 1972-2022



Item No	Description	Scale	RRP
E15112	Leyland National Mk.1 Long 2 Door demonstrator FRM499K (Aberdeen)	1:76	£41.95



Item No	Description	Scale	RRP
E15113	Leyland National Mk.1 Long 2 Door Cumberland Motor Services ERM35K	1:76	£41.95



Item No	Description	Scale	RRP
E15114	Leyland National Mk.1 Long 2 Door London Country Superbus KPA101K	1:76	£41.95



Item No	Description	Scale	RRP
E15115	Leyland National Mk.1 Long 2 Door Northern General Transport UUP831K	1:76	£41.95



Item No	Description	Scale	RRP
E15117	Leyland National Mk.1 Long 2 Door Nottingham City Transport NPD110L	1:76	£41.95



Item No	Description	Scale	RRP
E15118	Leyland National Mk.1 Long 2 Door Crosville Motor Services WFM801K	1:76	£41.95



Pre-production models shown. Colours of final models may vary.

To find your nearest retailer please visit www.bachmann.co.uk

BACHMANN
EUROPE PIC

Solido in party mood

Solido has gone through a succession of ownerships in its 90 year history, but its image has stayed consistent throughout, with a loyal following. **Stephen Paul Hardy** joins in the birthday celebrations.

Promotional and celebratory models have long been part of the diecast scene – including, of course, the *Diecast Collector* releases – so, it is no surprise that Solido has released two limited edition 1/18 scale models as part of its 90th Anniversary.

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY EDITIONS

At least one quintessentially French image just had to be on the candidate short list. And so it fell to the Renault R4F4 van, in its plausible blue and white commercial livery of the Solido house colours (S1802207), to be the first up of this attractive pair.

Interestingly it has not been a French, but German automobile that has been Solido's best-selling model in the new, post 2015 chapter, of the brand's history. So it is that best selling BMW E30 M3 Coupé, much-loved by the 'youngtimer' following, which was chosen to be the base for the dramatic second anniversary model. A highly-embellished DTM version, in a fabulous black and gold livery therefore makes Solido's E30 M3 Coupé a model looked set to go partying. With the deeply attractive, shimmering paint colours of the original cars, the next four models are strong contenders for turning heads at the party though.

ALFA ROMEO GIULIA QUADRIFOGLIO AND GTAM - 2021

With a pair of normal series production Quadrifoglios in the latest batch of 1/43 releases from Solido, and the 1/18 GTAm, the four together make a quad of Quadrifoglio. Marketed

▲ **Solido party goes** - the special-liveried BMW is certainly the belle of the ball, closely challenged by the Alfa Romeos in their shimmering paintwork, all chaperoned by a cheeky Autobianchi in Alitalia colours.

▼ **Pure indulgence** - the 911 3.0 Carrera. Why settle for mono when stereo is preferable!

to celebrate 100 years of Alfa Romeo in a limited production run of 500 cars, the Alfa GTA and GTAm, at 176,500 € and 181,500 € respectively, epitomise Alfa Romeo in an ultra modern way. Powered by a Ferrari-developed, 2.9-litre twin-turbo V6, the GTAm boasts an output of 533bhp.

Solido's two variations of the GTAm theme replicate the extensive additions that were used to upgrade the standard Quadrifoglio. Externally, this includes adjustable carbon-fibre wing, and splitter front and rear, aerodynamic bodykit parts to the sides, the lowering, the new 20-inch alloy wheels, and vast carbon-ceramic brake discs. Whilst, internally, a full roll cage in place of the back seats, carbon-fibre bucket seat and six-point harness are all replicated faithfully as well. For me, red versions make a superbly-paired display with the 1/43 standard





Quadrifoglio providing a perfect 'inset' display foil to the 1/18 GTAm that was developed from it.

AUTOBIANCHI A112 MK.5 ABARTH - 1980 (S1803803)

Whilst in Italian mode, another recent Solido release is an eye-catching version of its A112 model in Alitalia colours – a livery familiar in rallying on the Fiat 131 Abarth and the official Lancia Stratos entries during the 1970s and '80s. As Solido explains, nowadays, it is also reproduced by some fans on their rally cars, as with this model. Again eye-catching and nicely-detailed.

PORSCHE 911 3.0 CARRERA - 1977 (S1802605)

The temptation to over indulge at any party is ever



▲ Charismatically attractive in a distinctly Italian sort of way - the A112 Mk.5 Abarth in Alitalia colours really looks the part.



▲ And charismatically attractive in a modern take, Alfa Romeo sort of way - the pair of GTAm's both look very purposeful.

FURTHER INFO

Further reading about Solido's 90 year history can be found at <https://www.solido.com/en/our-brand/>.

▼ Renault R4F4 in special anniversary edition livery.

present and is the excuse I am going to proffer for the irrational (but nevertheless very satisfying) desire to have not one, but two of the final Solido new releases I have time for this month. One of the best models – certainly one of the best value – of the “G” series 911 (930) on the market is this 3.0 Carrera in Gulf Orange. Right from the very well modelled “PORSCHE”-scripted rear reflector panel, which was the hallmark of the 1974 updating of the 911, to the tip of its front end, this is just such a great model in a perfect colour. Normally I fall back on the excuse of open and closed versions for wanting a pair of a new release. This time I have no such hiding place – and no shame because as Porsche adverts of the era said “There is no substitute ...” **DC**



Blaulicht Satz

New releases of established, much modelled, traditional themes can either be rather old hat or, as **Stephen Paul Hardy** finds out, they can be refreshingly appealing in a comforting sort of way.

I guess that, for many of us, 1/32 scale has always had the connotation of Bayko and Britains toy figures. Certainly, it remains the principal scale domain of agricultural diecast models. Yet, as a scale, it sits well within the size ranges when it comes to display and, as far as Schuco is concerned, one which it continues to keenly deliver on, with far more than just vehicles for the farm model collector.

Returning to my roots, as it were, in terms of diecast models, the evergreen Volkswagen typ.2 commercial that has been replicated ad nauseam has been and will, probably, forever be a reoccurring subject. In context then, Schuco's inclusion of several variations on this theme would appear to have an uphill struggle in eliciting any enthusiasm from me. Surprisingly, then, far from it. There is something about the modelling style and the subject choices of Schuco's succession of offerings on the theme – and the latest versions – that I find curiously attractive. So much so that I decided to draw on one of two new Schuco MHI (Märklin Händler-Initiative) sets to put under the spotlight. Both comprise a 1950s oval rear window Beetle paired with a contemporary split-window transporter companion model. Both are blue-light themed sets, the first of which depicts German Fire brigade vehicles with the transporter in covered pick-up guise – MHI Set Feuerwehr 1/32 (450774300) and the other with the transporter in van format.



▲ Surely two of the most familiar automotive “faces” of all time – the VW T1...



▲ ... and VW Beetle, both in an evocative, matching livery.

MHI SET POLIZEI (450774400)

Without getting hung up on the exacting details of changes, model year to model year, on both the Beetle and typ.2 transporter, let's just focus on the pair as examples of diecast modelling. I'll start by saying that, as far as I am concerned, very nice examples they are too. I am invariably influenced by first impressions when having models to hand. Impressions that include some sort of emotional or sixth sense vibe that tunes the instinctive reactions. With this pair, and the Beetle in particular, there seems to be an evocation that mixes high quality tin plate and 1950s diecast in styles with a modern level of quality finish in a delightfully curious package. Of course, the Beetle, with its opening engine lid, exudes the 1950s by virtue of its oval rear window, but there is something about the way Schuco manages to incorporate the chrome trim details on these 1/32 and its 1/43 Beetles that is idiosyncratic of its modelling style. In particular, the fine chrome trim window surrounds and bonnet trim both shout “Schuco”.

The dark ‘forest green’ paintwork accented in white of the German Polizei is, in itself, such an evocative colour scheme. What impresses me about this pair is how solid – how dense – the white is. There is absolutely no grinning or bleeding through of the well applied, glossy, overall dark green paintwork on either model. The overprinted “POLIZEI” text, in particular, standing out very clear and very white in superb definition.

Unboxing the pair also reawakened an appreciation of how pleasurable small matching sets can be and how comfortable 1/32 seems after being so used to 1/43 and 1/18. **DC**



▲ Schuco has achieved superb definition in applying the white over dark ‘forest green’ high-gloss paintwork.

NEW 2023 EDITION

Over £400,000 worth of the latest toy auction results listed inside

CORGI • MATCHBOX • DINKY • TRI-ANG • BRITAINS AND MORE

TOY COLLECTORS PRICE GUIDE 2023

YOUR **ESSENTIAL FIELD GUIDE** TO CLASSIC TOY COLLECTABLES

£8.99 • www.ccofgb.co.uk Produced in association with   

VALUE YOUR COLLECTION

Over £400,000 worth of the latest toy auction results listed inside



1120 MODELS
covering Diecast,
Railways, TV & Film
and Tinplate!

A Mettoy (UK) "Giant Racing Car" from 1950, sold for £280.

INCLUDING...

» DIECAST DELIGHTS	» ON THE RAILS	» FILM FAVOURITES
 ■ Hundreds of models from Corgi, Dinky & many more	 ■ Bing, Wrenn and Bachmann we have them all covered	 ■ From record-breaking Star Wars toys to James Bond cars

£8.99

Packed with nearly 100 pages featuring auction prices from the past year. Whether you love diecast vehicles, model railways, tinplate, toy soldiers or TV and film memorabilia, you'll find dozens of results for each category. If you prefer being at auctions in person, or whether you prefer to buy on the internet there is something for every collector.

Order by calling 01778 392006 or go to ccofgb.uk/tcpg2023



Off to the races

By the late 1960s, Porsche's motorsport department had grown to a point where a serious rethink of its logistics became urgent. **Francisco Mota** recounts the story of three race transporters that changed all that.

Photos: João Carlos Oliveira

From a small racing department to one of the most important racing teams in the world – it didn't take Porsche long. By the late 1960s, the company had left behind a decade of continuous growth in motorsport investment. Things were becoming much more serious, with more entries in different types of racing and a more professional approach in every area. The company was moving its cars up through the racing classes, aiming now at overall victories and not just class wins. Logistics were becoming an issue for the team – among many tasks needed to go racing, the apparently simple one of taking the cars to events became a cause for concern.

Suddenly, transporting cars on top of an old open truck was not adequate anymore. A new generation

of 'Renntransporters' (racing car transporters) was born that catered for the need to guarantee safe and swift movement of racing cars out of Stuttgart's workshop. Image and marketing were also part of this discussion, as modern and ever more sophisticated racing prototypes could no longer be seen on top of an old flatbed truck.

Big commercial sponsors were arriving at the sport and they would look at every detail, including what the transporters looked like. After all, Porsche was now a top team, attracting top sponsors and everything had to look as professional as possible.

Porsche's board recognised the issue and took the decision to order a new fleet of transporters for the racing team. So, in late 1966, the company commissioned three brand new Mercedes-Benz



▲ Three of five versions that Schuco has released of Porsche's special transporter Mercedes-Benz O317, from the left: Gulf, Rothmans and the original livery.

▼ Rear view of Mercedes-Benz O317 in different colours, the 1/43 scale model looks very close to the original subject - and, yes, the rear doors do open.



O317. The new transporters would replace the old MAN 635 open top trucks, which the team had used for more than a decade.

The vehicles followed a new concept, being closed cabin affairs, tailor made for the needs of a professional racing team like Porsche. The O317 rolling chassis was usually used to build different types of buses, however, Porsche's requirements were very different. The three chassis were sent to Stuttgart-based coachbuilder, Robert Schenk, as soon as each was delivered by Mercedes-Benz.

Schenk kept the original driving cabin intact, adding overhead storage to enable double stacking of the lower sport-prototype racing cars. There were also several places to keep spare parts and tools, everything neatly enclosed inside a monolithic outside body.

When the first O317 was delivered to the racing team in 1967, it looked very modern, more than most of other team's transporters, when parked side by side in the paddock area of any race track. At the start, all three transporters were painted dark red with silver side stripes and dark grey lower body. A huge "PORSCHE" was painted on each side of the body and the company's shield proudly adorned the front end, over the windscreen.

The O317 was 12 metres long, first launched in 1957 and given a facelift in 1961, then again in 1966. The stressed body, welded to the floor, had a live, double-track rear axle, and a single at the front. Both axles featured pneumatic suspension and two shock absorbers per wheel. The OM346 engine was a 10.8 litre, inline six-cylinder, direct-injection Diesel, mounted under the floor ahead of the rear axle. The 1966 version had 149 kW (200 bhp) – more than enough power and torque to move Porsche's racing cars around Europe's public road network in the late sixties, early seventies, and beyond.

THE THREE O317 TRANSPORTERS

Porsche took delivery of the first O317 in 1967, it was road registered with German license plate "SYZ 32". Porsche used it until the end of 1969, when it

CLASSIC PORSCHE TRANSPORTERS



▲ This is the 1968 version, still with the original dark red Porsche livery. Two period prototypes keep it company.



▲ One of the transporters was painted pale blue and orange, the colours of new sponsor Gulf, seen here with two of the cars entered at Le Mans in 1971.



▲ Here, we can see the original dark red version with the pair of ramps in a raised horizontal position.



▲ Gulf transporter with ramps in loading position, with the rods lowered and holding the ramps in place while cars are loaded.

was loaned to John Wyer Automotive Engineering. Wyer famously raced the 917s for the following couple of years in Gulf colours, so the O317 was repainted pale blue and orange. BMW Motorsport bought this transporter in 1972, painted it in its official colours and used it until 1981. Then, today's Red Bull F1 famous consultant and private racer at the time, Helmut Marko, used it for his team that raced an M1 in 1981. SYZ 32 was scrapped later in the eighties.

The second O317 arrived in 1968, registered S C 9003, it was kept by Porsche until 1983. This one went from the original dark red livery to Martini white and Martini silver and later adopted the Rothmans livery. It is now part of the ROFGO collection, having been restored and painted in Gulf colours, to match the other cars in this collection.

Porsche received the third and last O317 in 1969, with license plate SM 2187. It was retained until 1983 and repainted several times in Martini, Essex and Rothmans liveries. It now lives in Florida, part of the Brumos Porsche Collection, restored to the original works colours.

SCHUCO'S SCALE MODELS

The German scale model maker, Schuco, released this special O317 Renntransporter in 1/43 scale a few years ago, releasing nearly all of the Porsche liveries it wore during its life serving the Stuttgart team. Schuco has even added the BMW Motorsport version that one of the O317s had during the



▲ Rear view mirrors are supplied separately for the collector to assemble, an easy job to do.



▲ The steering wheel is painted white or black, depending on which version you're looking at.

period. The only one missing is the Essex painted version. Let's hope Schuco isn't done yet with this set of parts, although Premium ClassiXXs has produced this one.

What we have is a high quality diecast replica in 1/43 scale, made mainly from metal, with a few plastic parts. It feels heavy when you hold one of these beauties, and very robust. The only moving parts are the rear hinged doors that give access to the cargo area. Schuco provides a pair of metallic ramps to load the precious cargo and two rods to keep those in place. Actually, you can have the ramps in two different positions. The first, the load position, where they lay on the ground and the loading edge. And the second, where you can hold them parallel to the ground, held by the side rods, as you can see in one of the pictures. The five variations differ only in the liveries – all the hardware is common to all of them, as per the real transporters.

At first glance, and compared with period pictures, the stance of this replica instantly looks perfect. Ground clearance is paramount in any truck replica and Schuco got that exactly right. Front and rear wheels are of excellent quality and look just like the real ones, with superb, treaded tyres and concave black painted rims. Turn the model upside down and there's even a representation of what the O317 looked like from beneath.

The front end has a nice black grille with a chromed frame and the three-pointed star in the middle. Headlamps have good quality lenses and



▲ In 1973, Martini sponsored Porsche's racing activities, at first with a silver background colour.



▲ For the 1976 season, the Martini base colour changed from silver to white and Schuco has released that one too.



▲ Three evolutions of the 1973 911 RSR next to the O317 transporter. Not all of them can fit inside.



▲ A pair of 936 Gr.6 prototypes look like they would both fit inside the transporter easily.

feature chromed frames. There are indicators at each corner and a wide black bumper at the bottom, with the license plate – all very straightforward, but well executed. The windscreen is divided into two halves, with black rubber surrounds and a vertical chromed wiper on either side. Exterior rear view mirrors are supplied with the model for the collector to assemble. It's an easy job to do, and prevents them getting broken while taking the model from the polystyrene box it comes in.

Going through the bodywork, many bolts and rivets can be seen and felt, and there are numerous details, like small hatches at wheel level, presumably to keep tools and parts. There's also a door on the right side, to give access to the cargo area, and a further pair of doors to enter the cabin. None of those can be opened, sadly.

Looking through the windscreen and door windows, we can see a pair of seats, a well-reproduced dash and a big diameter steering wheel positioned at an angle typical for a truck – almost horizontal. This is painted white in some of the models and black on others. The rear features red stoplights with chromed frames and there are two further warning signs that are provided separately for the buyer to glue under the rear of the truck.

Rear doors open in a very smooth and precise fashion – there is no lock mechanism to hold those closed, but they stay in the position if you leave them, either closed or open, and have generous opening angles to allow for easy positioning of



▲ The pair of ramps is held in place by two rods, which can be repositioned to suit.



▲ Front black grille with chromed frame and the iconic three pointed star in the middle.



▲ Diminutive rear lamps look exactly like the real things with their chromed surrounds - a lovely piece of detailing.

ramps and holding rods.

On the top of the model, there are three windows, to allow natural light inside the cargo area and they do a great job in this 1/43 scale model too. Otherwise, looking inside this area while rear doors are open, a simple floor representation can be seen. Again, a very well executed diecast.

FIVE DIFFERENT LOOKS

We won't call these dioramas, however, we could not resist adding a few racing cars to each of these five differently-liveried O317s. We matched the liveries, of course, and tried to match the cars to the period as well.

Starting with the original, red SYZ 32, a couple of Porsche prototypes joined the transporter for this photo session. They are both cars that raced in 1968, the first year this O317 was used by the Porsche works team. Car with race number 54 is the 907LH Daytona 24 hours race winner, a scale model made also by Schuco that looks great with its long tail and incredibly low roof line. It also fits easily inside the transporter, as it was a very small and narrow car. The other prototype, the one with race number 33, is the 906/8 entered at Le Mans the same year, finishing third overall and grabbing the fastest lap of the race. The model is a diecast by Ebbro and looks absolutely great next to the O317. We've positioned one of the cars on the ramps, after struggling a little with the holding rods to keep the ramps upwards, parallel to the ground.

CLASSIC PORSCHE TRANSPORTERS



For the second version, the Gulf by John Wyer, the model is painted pale blue and orange and looks really great with all the smaller stickers in place and with the correct SC 9003 license plate. Next to it, we have a pair of identically painted Porsche 917 LH, the pair that raced in the 1971 Le Mans 24 hours race. Both cars retired from the race due to oil leaks, however, the car with race number 18 registered the fastest lap of the race. With those long tails, both 917 LHs look stunning, being resincasts made by Spark and featuring an incredible level of detail, both outside and inside the cockpit.

The next one is the Martini Racing version, finished in silver, with license plates SM 2187. The body was repainted in silver and the typical Martini Racing blue and red stripes applied, plus Martini International Club and Porsche logos positioned on the sides, over the windscreen and rear doors. It was all neatly done. To add some interesting Martini silver Porsches, we went for a trio of 1973 911 Carrera RSRs. Car number 8 is a Minichamps diecast and looks fairly stock, compared with the other two, which are scale models released by Spark and feature a higher level of detail. The car with race number 46 was entered at Le Mans the same year and features a much wider rear wing, with an enlarged duck tail styling, wider tracks and wheel arches, plus black painted wheels. It finished fourth in the race. The third 911 Carrera RSR has race number 7 and is known as the Long Tail version, featuring a pair of unusual vertical rear fins that extend the length of the car. It raced at Zeltweg in 1973. They look like they would fit inside the O317, however, it would be quite a squeeze, so we didn't take the risk. Anyway, given their height, only two 911s would fit inside this kind of transporter.

We go back to Martini sponsorship, this time in the late seventies, when the livery had turned from silver to white. Again, Schuco paid close attention to the original O317. Martini stripes turn upwards near the rear of the transporter, there are several smaller stickers behind the cabin, and the license plate is the correct SC 9003. To make this one look even better,

▲ Le Mans 1982 could have looked a lot like this, despite the wrong text on the cars, with the ageing O317 painted in Rothmans colours.



▲ The rear doors open wide to allow the easy loading of the racing cars.



▲ The double-tracked wheels on the rear axle have nicely treaded tyres.



▲ After that historical 1-2-3 result in 1982, the trio of 956s are loaded back inside the transporter to head back to Stuttgart.

a pair of white Martini Porsche prototypes joined it. Namely a 1976 936, the car with race number 7 that won the Imola race that year (diecast by Trofeu), plus the ultra-famous 936 that won the 1977 Le Mans 24 hours, car with race number 4, a very fine diecast by Ixo. Being open-topped prototypes, it's easy to peek inside the cockpits and admire all the details they have to offer. Being narrow cars, they fit inside the O317, however, care must be taken with the mirrors.

The last one is the Rothmans version, here the transporter has license plates "SM 2187". The livery features the famous sponsor's colours, however, under the blue, red and gold horizontal stripes, Porsche opted to keep the O317 white, instead of blue, as in the race cars. Smaller sponsors are featured on the front doors. To end this article in a higher note, we grabbed a Minichamps special gift set released in the nineties that features all three Porsche 956 that dominated the 1982 race. It was the first time the Rothmans Porsches raced at Le Mans and the trio just swept the floor with the competition, taking all the podium places. The gift box features all three cars on a card base that replicates the start/end line on the tarmac and the cars going through it in formation. Out of the box and next to the transporter, they look equally great. The set of parts Minichamps designed for the 956, in long tail specification, still looks good after so many years. Different wheel caps, front to rear, different colours for the sun visors and that early 956 Rothmans livery that went around the cockpit and engine cover, although the text should read "ROTHMANS" rather than "RACING". The models fit inside the transporter and, stacked with care, the three cars would be ready to go from Stuttgart to Le Mans.

Schuco's Mercedes-Benz O317 scale model recaptures the feeling of Porsche's special transporter in all of its liveries. It pays homage to a vehicle made with such high quality standards that saw it going through three decades, from the early jobs in the late sixties, well into the eighties. They just don't build them like they used to. **DC**



Reliable & Fast Delivery

We ship worldwide and offer services to suit your budget.

- Standard Delivery - £5
- Next Day Service - £9
- International - Search for 'Hattons Delivery' for full info



Trunk Service

Purchase items and have them held with us for later despatch.

- Combine Your Orders
- Save on Postage Costs
- Snap up Popular Items



Friendly Team

Our team are always happy to help with your order or any queries you might have.

- Phone
- Email
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- YouTube
- LinkedIn

CX team Open 7 days a week 9:30am - 1pm/ 2pm - 5pm



Pre-Owned Trade-In

Trade-in your unwanted items quickly and easily with Hattons.

- Dedicated pre-owned team
- Build your list quickly online
- Great cash or credit offers



News & Listings

Get all the details you need to know on a range of models.

- Join us on social media
- Read our weekly newsletters
- Lots of great online content

Find us at: www.hattons.co.uk or search for: 'Help Me Hattons'

Our Latest Best-Sellers...

Explore over 24,000 items at www.hattons.co.uk

HO Gauge (1:87 Scale)

Oxford Diecast - Cars



87DP48001 Dodge B-1B Pick Up 1948 Truck Red ... £7.50

OO Gauge (1:76 Scale)

Atlas Editions - Buses



JB14 AEC Q type - "Green Line" (RRP £29.99) BARGAIN ... £5



JB04 AEC Q1 3 axle trolleybus - "London Transport" (RRP £29.99) ... BARGAIN ... £5



JB03 Bedford OB - "Wallace Arnold" (RRP £29.99) BARGAIN ... £4



JB12 BMMO CM5T - "Midland Red" (RRP £29.99) BARGAIN ... £4



JB02 Bristol Lodekka FS open top - "Southdown" (RRP £29.99) ... BARGAIN ... £4



JB18 Burlingham Seagull - "Ribble" (RRP £29.99) BARGAIN ... £5

Base Toys - Buses



B105B Bristol Lodekka LD1 'West Riding' Route 58 to Wakefield (circa 1969-1971) (RRP £21.99) BARGAIN ... £17

Corgi - Commercial vehicles



DG199012 Scammell Mechanical Horse Flatbed Trailer/Load in British Rail yellow Railfreight emblems (RRP £12.78) BARGAIN ... £8



DG199013 Scammell Mechanical Horse in Bouts Tillotson (RRP £10.99) ... BARGAIN ... £7



DG148023 Scammell Scarab sheeted flatbed in Rail Freight (RRP £11.50) ... BARGAIN ... £7

Northcord Model Company - Buses



UK6530 ADL Enviro400 MMC - "Go North East - XLines" NEW ... £57



UK0066 ADL Enviro400MMC - Plain white body 10.9m single door ... £62.50



76BI002 Beadle Integral Maidstone & District ... £18



76IR6009 Irizar i6 Plain white ... £22

Cars



76INV001 AC Invacar Pale Blue ... £6



76TT002 Audi TT Coupe Brilliant Black NEW ... £7



76COR3010 Ford Cortina MkIII Evergreen NEW ... £6



76JEP003 Jaguar E Pace Santorini Black NEW ... £6.50



76MGZ009 MGZB Island Green/Black NEW ... £5.50



76RN001 Renault 4 Beige ... £6.50



76RE001 Riley Elf MkIII Arancia Beige/Pale Ivory ... £6.50



76ACM001 AEC 690 Cement Mixer Blue NEW ... £19.50



76ACD001 AEC 690 Dumper Truck Wimpey ... £19.50



76SNG005 Scania S Series Highline Box Trailer - 'Stobart NHS' ... £24.50



76JS001 JCB JS220 Tracked Excavator JCB ... £23



76FCR003 Fowler B6 Crane 8920 The Great North ... £18



76AC001 Austin Champ 4th RHAR 7th Arm Div Germany 1957 ... £7.50



76RL001 Bedford RL RAF Kinloss Mountain Rescue NEW ... £12



4642101 Burlingham Seagull - "J.T. Whittle & Sons, Blackpool" (RRP £14.99) ... BARGAIN ... £3



43CF001 Bedford CF Ice Cream Van/Morrison - "Mr Whippy" £15

Corgi - Aircraft - military



AA27204 Avro Vulcan B.2 XM575, RAF No.101 Sqn, Waddington Wing, 1975. ... £198



AA34019 Consolidated B-24H Liberator 'Witchcraft' 130 missions ... £147



AA33621 Panavia Tornado GR.4 ZA548, RAF No.31 Squadron 'Goldstars' Retirement Scheme, RAF Marham, March 2019, (RRP £94.99) ... BARGAIN ... £50



AA33619 Panavia Tornado GR.4 ZG752 - Retirement Scheme - RAF Marham March 2019 (RRP £79.99) ... BARGAIN ... £50

1:48 Scale

Corgi - Aircraft - military



AA28702 Fokker E.III, Manfred von Richthofen, Kasta 8, June 1916. (RRP £49.99) ... BARGAIN ... £29

O Gauge (1:43 Scale)

Corgi - Cars



VA12618 Ford Escort Mk2 1.3 Ghia Green ... £32.50



VA08102 Volkswagen Type 2 Camper - Sea Blue and Cumulus White (RRP £35.99) ... BARGAIN ... £25



Ixo Models - Buses

Ixo-BUS030 AEC Regent III in London Transport red - 'Last Run of the RT bus' ... £51

Oxford Diecast - Commercial vehicles





Lone Star's Lost Legacy

In May 1988, Lone Star closed its doors for good – but remarkably this wasn't the end of the road for its famed Impy cars. **James Robertshaw** tells the amazing story of a recent fascinating discovery.

It's been mentioned before how collecting models from 'second tier' manufacturers and, in particular, a rather erratic Lone Star can prove to be particularly rewarding, with many exciting new discoveries still to be made. These usually relate to previously unknown model variants, or new colour schemes, but occasionally something much bigger and much more exciting is unearthed.

THE IMPY JOURNEY

This story involves Lone Star's well-known and collectable range of Impy cars. First introduced in 1966, they were marketed as "the cars with everything" and boasted a huge list of exciting features, from working steering to jewelled headlights. Two years later, when USA giant Mattel launched its revolutionary Hot Wheels, Lone Star were quick to react by modifying the Impy cars and relaunching them as 'Flyers'. Gone were the working steering and jewelled headlights, but in their place were new hi-speed wheels, lustre paint finishes and racing stripes. By the mid-1970s, the British toy car industry was again under threat, this time from the masses of

▲ These colourful cars are clearly identifiable as Lone Star Impy models, but everything else about them may surprise you!

Lone Star Impy Cars (1978-84)	
No.	Model
71	Range Rover
72	Cadillac
73	Corvette Stingray
74	Toyota 2000GT
75	Police Car (Range Rover)
76	GT Rally (Corvette Stingray)
77	Jaguar Mk.X
78	Maserati Mistral
79	Ford Mustang
80	Lotus Europa
81	Volvo 262
82	Mercedes

▲ There were 12 Impy cars in Lone Star's final line-up. So far, only half have been tracked down in Pakistan.

cheaper toys arriving from the Far East. Lone Star responded quickly by simplifying the Flyers cars to now create new low-cost models. The Impy name was bought back, but this time the cars were basic diecast body shells with blacked out windows and plastic bases. In this form, the Impys were able to compete against the Far East rivals and survived into the 1980s. By 1983, sales were likely in decline, so in a last-ditch effort, some of the cars received football club logos and were now issued as 'Soccer Champs'. However, by this time, Lone Star had fallen into receivership and, amongst the turmoil, this small range quickly disappeared.

Happily, a European buyer was quickly found and, against all the odds, production continued at Lone Star's Hatfield factory for several more years. It also wasn't the end of the road for the long-running, battle-hardened range of Impy cars.

THE INEVITABLE

Eventually, the inevitable happened and Lone Star's sole surviving factory closed its doors for good, in the summer of 1988. All remaining plant and



equipment were auctioned off, along with the dies and any remaining stocks. The dies and tooling for the more popular ranges (mainly the toy guns, but also the Farmers Boy range of tractors and farming equipment) had already been transferred to China, where production would continue into the 1990s.

With the majority of the commercially viable dies in China, it's likely there was little serious interest in what was left. A noticeable exception were the dies from the 'Tuf-Tots' range of small-scale vehicles. These were purchased by Microlink Industries Ltd., and surprisingly re-emerged in the late 1990s as a colourful series called 'Mokes', complete with collectors cards and even a 'Mokes' board game. Microlink are reported to have also purchased some of the surviving dies for models that had previously been dropped from the earlier Impy and Flyers ranges, but that's another story!

It was assumed that any other dies had disappeared forever after being bought up by the scrapmen, who also attended the Hatfield factory auction in 1988. However, excitingly this is most definitely not the case!

LONE STAR RESURRECTION

It has recently emerged that the bulk of the dies and tooling were purchased by a family who then had them shipped to Pakistan, where incredibly production of Lone Star toys would recommence! In particular, it's thrilling to learn that the dies and tooling for the iconic Impy cars were part of the shipment.



▲ So far just this single example of a Pakistan produced Impy truck has been discovered. How many more are out there?



▲ Lone Star cleans up in Pakistan! This early 1990s Surf detergent packaging shows the Impy cars that were given away as part of the Unilever promotion.

The Khan family attended the auction and, as Mr Khan puts it, "We bought the factory lock stock and barrel, or should I say dies, tools and moulds." The shipment soon left Felixstowe bound for Karachi, where a factory was established. The necessary raw materials were sourced, zinc alloy was imported (although it was soon discovered that scrap zinc could be more economically imported and melted down to produce the toys). A particularly lucrative (and appropriate) source arrived in the shape of old carburettors taken from scrap American cars. Thus, piles of old Holley carburettors would soon remerge as rows of Impy toy cars.

The Impy cars would again prove their versatility and popularity by becoming the most successful range of former Lone Star toys to emerge from the Karachi factory. Initially, they were produced with rally numbers and stripes printed on the bonnets and roofs, something Lone Star perhaps should have considered as it certainly gives the cars extra appeal. These Impy 'rally' cars still featured Lone Star and Impy branding underneath with just the "Made In England" script crudely blanked out. Other than the wheels, which now featured a gold printed design, the cars remain very similar in appearance to the Hatfield produced originals, although in very different colour schemes. Not surprisingly, the quality and finish of the cars was not on a par with Lone Star, but would have been deemed more than satisfactory for the intended market.

Despite the cars retaining their Impy branding, they were packaged and marketed locally under the brand name 'Zoom'. Different packs were produced including a set of 10 Impy cars branded as 'German Motors' which was thought an easy name for the local market to understand. Not that it would have mattered, but only one of the line-up of 12 different Impy cars was based on a German model.

The popularity of the Impy cars was highlighted when 'Unilever Pakistan Ltd.' placed an order for 200,000 Impys as part of an upcoming promotion for its detergent range. Mr Khan states that this was their big breakthrough, although it was to pale into insignificance when, later on, a local toothpaste manufacturer used the Impys as promotional giveaways and placed an initial order for 1 million cars! This later production run now had 'Lone Star' blanked out on the bases although the 'Impy' brand and model names remained. The 'Natural' toothpaste brand was printed across the bonnet of the cars, which were available in an attractive array of colours.

WHAT ELSE?

The vast numbers of Impy cars produced in Pakistan does at least ensure examples still survive today. Some



▲ The Corvette Stingray was part of the initial eight Impy models launched in 1966. It's incredible to see it in a line-up spanning 30 years of production! From left to right: Pre-production trial model (1965), 'Impy Super Cars' (1966-68), Hi-Speed 'Flyers' (1969-76), Plated 'Silver Flyers' (c.1972), Low-cost 'Impy' (1976-84), Pakistan production (1988-96).

VINTAGE DIECAST



▲ Early Pakistan issued Impys were finished in rally colours, as seen here on these Mercedes saloons.



▲ Base plates initially retained their "Lone Star" and "Impy" branding. On later models, as shown here, the Lone Star name was blanked out. As expected "Made in England" (behind the rear axle) is also obscured.

of the other Lone Star ranges manufactured in lower volumes are proving difficult to track down. It is known that Lone Star's corresponding range of Impy trucks was also produced in Pakistan. Originally these were issued by Lone Star between 1976 and 1984 and were loosely based on 4 trucks (including a Scania and bonneted Volvo) which, fitted with plastic bodies, gave 12 different models. Again, the versions produced in Pakistan, with the same 'plastic body married to a diecast base and cab' construction, were very similar in appearance to Lone Star's own versions. The "Lone Star" and "Impy" wording still appears on the underside of the trucks although again "Made in England" is blanked out. The mind boggles at the vast array of colour schemes potentially available from combining the three main components, as its likely each were produced in several colours.

A range of larger trucks was also produced that made use of the 'Kings Of The Road' castings. The 'Kings' were a series of 12 generic trucks that first appeared in Lone Star's 1978 trade catalogue. As they were aimed at the younger end of the market, they are fairly basic playthings, limiting their appeal to only the most die-hard of Lone Star collectors. Lone Star later issued these with trailers, some in the liveries of iconic British brands, which resulted in more pleasing models. Hopefully time will tell exactly which versions were produced in Pakistan.

It's exciting to consider what else might have been manufactured in Pakistan. Of course, Lone Star's diverse range of toys goes well beyond the scope of the pages of this magazine and Mr Khan has mentioned that amongst other things Walther toy guns were produced, undoubtedly stemming from Lone Star's licenced James Bond range.

THE END?

Production of the Lone Star toys lasted almost 10

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Mr Khan for sharing his fascinating story. It could also not have been possible without help from my friend Zakyr, who also provided a number of the photographs.

▼ A blue "Natural" Pakistan Impy Cadillac is flanked by earlier versions all produced by Lone Star in England. Flyers versions are on the left, whilst the later low-cost Impys are to the right.



▲ The Range Rover was a neat casting by Lone Star (top) and was available as a police car, ambulance, fire chief, RNLI and as a civilian version. Lone Star produced two different bases, one of which featured extra police lights in the front grille. Surprisingly castings for both bases were used in Pakistan (bottom), although a Pakistan Police version has yet to be seen.

years in Pakistan, ending abruptly in 1997. All the time the operation had been fighting against not only cheap toys arriving from China (sound familiar?), but also problems caused by economic and political instability and corruption. The Chinese toy cars were often smuggled into the country, avoiding taxes, making them virtually impossible to compete against. In the end, there were so many issues, Mr Khan had no choice but to abandon his factory and now enjoys life (coincidentally) in the 'Lone Star State' of Texas. He reminisces; "I really worked hard to make the plant work, but I guess now I look back and say life's too short, especially the way Pakistan was back then, it was definitely a ride."

So what's happened to the abandoned dies and tooling? Well everything (including stocks of finished toys) was left for good in a warehouse. Having investigated this tantalising information further I'm told, in no uncertain terms, that it was all abandoned 25 years ago, so the chances of it still being there are incredibly slim.

Never say never though, for the last 34 years it was thought that the old Hatfield factory dies had disappeared for good before this amazing story surfaced. Who knows where Lone Star's resilient Impy cars could resurface next? **DC**

AMAZING DIECAST BARGAINS FROM KEITH'S CARS OF DERBY

"FOR LOTS MORE EXCITING MODELS, PLEASE VISIT MY WEBSITE: WWW.KEITHSCARS.CO.UK"

GREAT NEW 1/24 DIECASTS! POST FREE!!



GREENLIGHT 1977 PONTIAC FIREBIRD TRANS-AM
'SMOKEY & THE BANDIT' 36.99



WHITEBOX 1993 FORD ESCORT RS COSWORTH 35.99



1965 AEC 690 CEMENT MIXER 23.95



BEDFORD RL CANVAS TRUCK RAF KINLOSS
MOUNTAIN RESCUE 18.95



FOWLER B6 'TALISMAN' NORMAN E. BOX 19.95

BIG STUFF!! NEW 1/18 DIECASTS! ALL POST FREE!!



IXO 1977 FORD ESCORT MK2 RS MEXICO 72.99



IXO 1977 FORD ESCORT MK2 RS2000 72.99



MCG 1938 MERCEDES-BENZ G4 6 WHEEL GERMAN
STAFF CAR (ALSO IN BLACK) 72.99



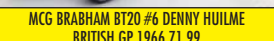
MCG 1973 FORD CAPRI MK1 RS2600 72.99



MCG 1973 FORD CAPRI MK1 RS2600 ORANGE 72.99



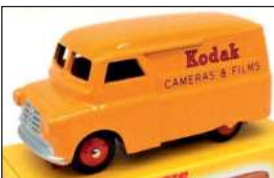
MCG BRABHAM BT20 #5 JACK BRABHAM MEXICO
1966 71.99



MCG BRABHAM BT20 #6 DENNY HULME
BRITISH GP 1966 71.99



BEDFORD VAN DINKY TOYS #482 16.99



BEDFORD VAN KODAK #480 16.99



BEDFORD VAN OVALTINE #481 16.99



BERLIET SKIP TRUCK #34C 34.99



BMW 1500 #534 16.99



BORGWARD ISABELLA COUPE #549 16.99



RICHIER ROAD ROLLER #830 22.99



FORD FLATBED TRUCK #25H 16.99



FORD THUNDERBIRD CABRIOLET #555 16.99



DODGE ROYAL SEDAN #191 16.99



PORSCHE 356A COUPE #182 16.99



SIMCA CARGO REMOVALS VAN 'BAILLY' 33AN 23.99



BERLIET 'GAK' CANVAS BACK WAGON #584 34.99



BUICK ROADMASTER #24V 19.99



PEUGEOT J7 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE VAN
'AUTOROUTES' WITH ACCESSORIES #570A 27.99



SIMCA CARGO TIPPER 33B 22.99



IXO 1938 MERCEDES-BENZ 770K CABRIOLET 29.99



IXO 1958 VOLKSWAGEN KARMANN GHIA COUPE
29.99



IXO 1965 FORD MUSTANG SHELBY GT350 29.99

UNIVERSAL HOBBIES 1/12 HONDA
RC30 CARL FOGARTY WINNER ISLE
OF MAN TT 1990 INCREDIBLE DETAIL!
49.99 POST FREE!!



BERLIET 'GAK' RECOVERY TRUCK 'AUTOROUTES'
589A 34.99



CHEVROLET CORVAIR #552 16.99



PEUGEOT VAN 'ESSO' #25BR 16.99



STUDEBAKER TOW TRUCK #25R 18.99

MORE AMAZING ATLAS DINKY TOYS!! ALL POST FREE!!

CONTACT KEITH BY EMAIL: SONOFCORNERSHOP@BTINTERNET.COM CHEQUES/POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE TO KEITH BRADLEY - SEND YOUR ORDER TO:

KEITH'S CARS, 25 ALLESTREE LANE, DERBY DE22 2HQ TEL: 07976 917574



Concept-driven

Pininfarina's amazing Abarth 2000 concept was first shown to the world at the Brussels Motor Show in January 1969. Kevin Brock delves into the history and the diecasts made of this incredible car.

Based on an SE010 Sport Spider chassis, it was conceived purely to go racing and featured a detuned version of the Spider's 1,946cc, 250 bhp, 4-cylinder engine, giving it an estimated, but never proven, 175 mph top speed. Sometimes wrongly called the Scorpione (it never was by the Abarth factory), it was years ahead of its time, featuring a number of styling elements not seen before on this sort of sports racer. These included a prismatic-shaped, laminated safety glass canopy that hinged forward, allowing access for driver and passenger, and a central bar of six headlights on the front panel, which rotated like pop up headlights to face forward

▲ An interesting variety of models of the Abarth 2000 Pininfarina.

when needed. This was later modified from a half moon shape to an oblong bar, but that's as far as any development went and the stunning aluminium-bodied coupé sadly remained a one-off, eventually disappearing into Pininfarina's dusty basement with all of its other long-forgotten prototypes.

This was until an obsessive, Japanese Abarth collector, Shiro Kosaka, asked Pininfarina if he could buy it and, after much persuasion, it eventually agreed, on the one condition that he first build a special building to house it. This he did and, in 1992, opened 'The Gallery Abarth' near Lake Yamanaka in Japan, where the car is displayed alongside his other Abarths, lucky man!



▲ Dinky advert from the *Buster* comic in 1971.



▲ French Dinky catalogue page.



▲ The two French/English Dinky upper body castings are different.



▲ Mystery Dinky No 202 Abarth with headlight unit.



▲ 1969 press photo of the prototype.



▲ French Dinky No 1430 on the later plinth.



▲ Dinky Toys No 202 Fiat Abarth 2000.

THE MODELS

French Dinky were the first to replicate it in diecast, and adverts appeared in French publications stating "New for 1970" as No 1430, along with another new model, No 1432 Ferrari 312P. When it appeared, it was impressive in red paint, with realistic alloy wheels and rubber tyres, and white stripes and scorpion graphics on the engine cover.

I became aware of it when my weekly comic *Buster* ran a full page advert showing the same two new models from the UK Dinky range. "New for 1971" it proclaimed, in colourful lettering with comic style illustrations showing the new No 202 Abarth and No 204 Ferrari. The artist had obviously copied the French model as the illustration featured the same wheels and tyres, even though the ad stated the models featured the new Speedwheels.

When No 202 did appear, it was in a vivid day-glo orange, with white baseplate and engine cover. To a car (and Fiat) obsessed kid like me, it looked exciting, but I was also disappointed it wasn't in the accurate red that my comic ad had promised. Another thing that annoyed me at the time was the size of the front wheels, which were too small as Dinky had obviously used a standard wheel size, the new Speedwheels didn't help either. The

French version had lovely accurate replicas of the Campagnolo alloys with rubber tyres, which were the correct size, transforming it from cheerful toy to accurate replica. Wheels can make or break a model and this is the perfect example.

However the biggest irritation of all is the ugly recess where the headlight bar should be. France's one had a clear plastic block, our version just an empty void, which looked awful. On later versions, the casting was modified and this was filled in, a huge improvement, but wasn't it like this in the first place? This was the only update the model saw, with no colour changes, though the paint shade did vary slightly on some examples. Boxes were the standard yellow and white box on release, progressing to the flimsy raised plinth and bubble until production ended in 1975.

The headlight bar is also a problem with the French version as it's often missing on even otherwise mint-boxed examples, including mine. Unfortunately no spares manufacturer produces a reproduction of this part, which is a pity because I would imagine it would be an easy part to replicate and whoever did so would certainly sell plenty, not just to owners of the French Dinky, but also to collectors wanting to improve the English one.

1969 FIAT ABARTH 2000 PININFARINA



Dinky No 202 original and later examples, showing the revised front end.



Both Dinky versions with engine covers raised (French on the left, English on the right).



▲ French (top) and English (bottom) baseplates differ.



▲ Bulgarian GAMA (top) with similar Politoys (bottom).



▲ Bulgarian 'Mikro' GAMA copy.



▲ Bulgarian Matchbox Mikro Abarth 2000.

Italian Politoys trio.



Time hasn't been kind to Dinky's Abarth though. The plastic glazing over the engine warps badly at the leading edge, which doesn't allow the bodywork to shut flush with the roof of the car, and the sides of the glazing also warps and curls upwards which looks dreadful. Interestingly, this problem doesn't seem to affect the French version, which would suggest they used better quality plastic.

I'd assumed that this was originally a Bobigny casting which was then sent to Binns Road for production, however, when I stripped down examples of both for restoration I was surprised to find that they were different. Almost every dimension of the castings differ as well as the engine and baseplates, indicating the Liverpool factory modelled its own version from scratch, but why? Does any Dinky expert know the story?

To add confusion, since writing the above paragraph, I have acquired a mint boxed Dinky 202 complete with clear headlight bar, which the seller described as being from the very early production run of this model. Is it a pre-production example? Did a few leave the Liverpool factory with this addition before it was deemed too expensive, or has a previous owner just added one from the French version? It certainly improves the model considerably.

A year later, Italy's Politoys brought out its own 1/43 Abarth 2000 Pininfarina as No 12, in its popular M series. This is a cleverly-constructed model, with the main upper casting also forming the rear half of

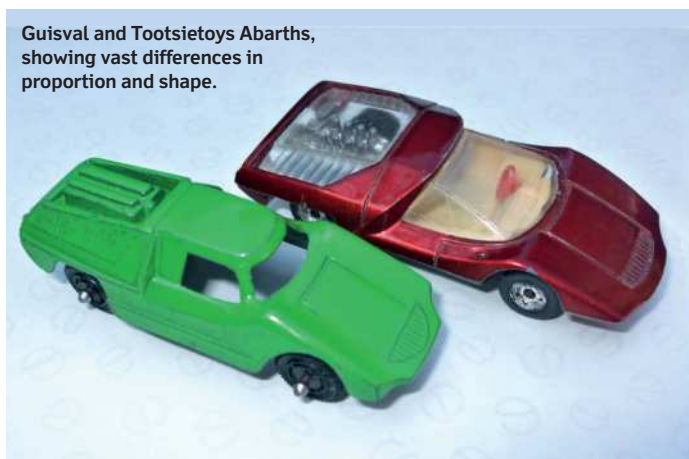
the base, with the front half in bare metal and a screw holding it all together. The rear also has the bottom of the engine on display and the opening engine cover hinges on this section to reveal a good representation of the Fiat engine. What's great about this model is that the canopy also opens, hinging forward to reveal an accurate interior, with the seats part of the base casting and the dashboard cleverly forming part of the upper casting.

Politoys also featured the headlight bar as a separate piece of clear plastic like the French Dinky, but thankfully it usually stays in place. Abarth's shield on the nose as part of the casting finishes it off nicely and Politoys' 'FLASH WHEELS' suit the model well. I've only seen it in metallic blue, though I understand there is also a rare light blue variant. In the eighties, Brazilian manufacturer McGregor re-issued a number of old Politoys castings, under its own name, and the Abarth 2000 Pininfarina appeared in the same yellow plastic cases, but in bottle green with blue tinted glazing, racing numbers, Champion stickers and a different wheel design.

Politoys also made a 1/66 scale version in its Penny or J-series, which is virtually a scaled down version of the 1/43, in a simple two-piece all-metal casting, with no interior apart from the dashboard minus steering wheel and no engine, just an indication of an engine block as part of the base detail. Colours were white, yellow and blue with a chequered bonnet stripe, later ones can be found in red and blue with flimsy black plastic bases bearing



Spanish 1/66 scale
Guisval Abarth Pininfarina.



Guisval and Tootsietoys Abarths,
showing vast differences in
proportion and shape.



American pair of Ertl and Kidco Abarths.

the J19 reference number. This new baseplate doesn't allow the wheels to run freely and it feels cheap and insubstantial in what was obviously a cost cutting exercise.

GAMA, of West Germany, produced a comprehensive range of diecasts during the seventies and its Abarth 2000, number 9606 in the GAMA MINI range, was a popular one. In an uncommon scale of 1/40 it was similar in its proportions to the Politoys, just slightly scaled up. It looks like it was based on the Italian model, as the baseplate design is very similar although GAMA's doesn't feature the bottom half of the engine. The canopy and engine cover open the same and the interior is similar, although the overall quality of the casting isn't as crisp and the paint finish not as good. It appeared in a strange metallic orange with number 7 roundels on the bonnet and Castrol GTX stickers on the roof in green card boxes or plastic cases with yellow bases with a 1 pfennig coin attached to unscrew the model from its base.

The similarities continue as, like the Politoys Abarth, GAMA's was also re-issued by someone else. In 1985, it sold twenty castings to Bulgarian firm, MIKRO, whose varied range also included ex-Matchbox, NRZ and Schuco models produced in its Razgrad factory. Its version of the Abarth is identical, even using the same GAMA baseplate, and it can be found in various colours with tampo printed graphics on the front and sides, like my yellow 'RUFF TREK TURBO' example. Bizarrely, some

even appeared in Matchbox branded packaging, not sure what the company thought of this! Most common is a straight copy of the GAMA, but in a dirty orange with the No 7 and Castrol GTX stickers now tampo-printed, with wheels and engine in grey plastic instead of chrome.

Spanish firm Guisval made a very smart Abarth, No 9 in its range, with spot-on proportions and nicely detailed engine for its 1/64 size. It's a simple casting, which appeared in a lovely deep metallic red with white interior and clear, blue or orange glazing. It wasn't produced for long and I'm only aware of it in red, though it can be found with a different wheel design.

Once again this Abarth had a second life with another manufacturer, this time with Aguti-Toys of Argentina, that produced a version in its range of ex-Guisval castings in white, green, red and brown with black interiors and different wheels. This is a rare model as it wasn't originally sold outside of South America and very hard to find.

Mini-Tech of Japan made a 1/43 model, which on the packaging is described as a Fiat Abarth 2000 Coupe. Number KS102 is a slightly awkward looking model, being a little too angular, but, to be fair, I have only seen it in photos. It has buttons on the sides just below the leading edge of the engine lid that, when pressed, release the engine cover and canopy. It also features the later revised square headlight bar at the front. It's in red with twin white stripes on the sides of the engine cover, but no white scorpions, though



▲ Tootsietoys Abarths, all with casting variations.



▲ Kellogg's Tin Toys Crackle promotional.

1969 FIAT ABARTH 2000 PININFARINA



A quintuplet of 1/66 scale Tin Toys No W13, plus the Kellogg's promotional.

the model also came with a sticker sheet featuring a Gulf logo, Italian flag and three No.2 roundels to apply. I've also seen this model listed as being made by Marushin as No 2 in its Dreamcar series, but when it went bust all the castings were sold to a Korean company, who produced the Abarth unchanged under the King Star name.

Whilst on the subject of rare Japanese versions, a company called Enrico reportedly produced a 1/30 scale plastic pull-back toy in its Dream Car series with Nakajima branding, as well as a one piece soft plastic moulding of the car in approximately HO scale, but that's all I know about them unfortunately. Two models for the 'rare as hens teeth' file!

In the seventies, Tootsie Toys, America's oldest toy maker, produced a very simple diecast of the Abarth 2000 in its Jam Pac range. For years I ignored it, thinking that it was just too crude, but then I found one at a toyfair and thought it had a certain charm, and have since acquired six more with the aim of collecting all the colours that it appeared in. This model actually doesn't resemble the real car at all, even if you squint, definitely plenty of artistic licence here and in complete contrast to the other small scale ones. All the various coloured examples that I have are different castings, and I'm wondering if the yellow and dark green that I've still to find are also different. I'm not sure if Tootsie Toys were ever properly distributed in the UK, but they certainly weren't on my radar as a child.

Staying with American companies, Kidco released the Abarth in its Tough Wheels range, in 1979, as No 154-5 in the European Sports Cars series. Very similar in its proportions to the Ertl/Lintoy, but with a unique engine cover design with slats going right across eliminating the glass, it's usually found in pinky red with yellow and orange lightning stickers, "FIAT ABARTH" on the roof and the initials "FA" on the bonnet. Produced in Hong Kong, some have no stickers, Kidco branding or reference numbers on the baseplate. Ertl also made a 1/64 scale Abarth



▲ Philmar Super Wheels Abarths with the carded example wearing a Mobil sticker.



▲ Tin Toys Abarth in a rather fetching shade.



▲ Two extremes at the cheap toy end of the market.

2000 as No 1601 in its 'Cars of the World' series. The blister card described it simply as a Fiat Abarth with 'Speed Wheels' and 'Opening Hood'. This is a quality all metal model with sharp detail which is heavy for its size and is the only one of the small Abarth 2000 models to feature an opening engine cover. What is interesting is that they've decided to include the roof as part of the engine cover which actually looks quite good with its small window over the engine. It's just a pity they've given it a 12-cylinder engine instead of a 4-cylinder, they must have assumed that it used Ferrari power! The Superfast style wheels give it a Matchbox feel and I've also found an identical model in the same colour with Lintoy branding.

One that is easy to find is from Tin Toys, which had a varied range of models, some inspired by Matchbox castings. I'm not sure where the Abarth originated from, but it is a well-proportioned, 1/66 scale model that appeared in a range called Fast Wheels and another called Super Wheels. Both came in blister packs, usually in metallic purple, with either black or chrome interiors and "WT205 ABARTH 2000 MADE IN HONG KONG" on the base. Odd details on this model are two small lugs that stick up from the headlight bar, I've no idea what they're meant to represent. The canopy also features windscreen pillars like the larger Politoy, but it lacks glazing over the engine.

There is also a similar China casting, identified by the number "NO.W3", which has a more substantial base and wider wheels. I've got it in yellow and blue, and a very recently-acquired pink one. A dark blue one (NO.W13), with amber glazing, has a pull-back motor, which can also be found wearing Kellogg's livery, as it was used in a promotion for its Snap, Crackle and Pop breakfast cereal. Its logo features on the roof, the Crackle character's face on the bonnet and "CRACKLE" wording on the engine cover. Various cars were used for the Snap and Pop characters including a Porsche and Lancia Stratos, each character featuring on two different cars. All



Both versions of the American Kidco Abarth.

these, apart from the Kellogg's, were bought loose from tray boxes in a local newsagent in the eighties, but it's still an easy model to find, almost every time I come across a box of old diecasts at a bootfair there's always at least one of these in there!

Tin Toys also produced a slightly scaled down simplified version without an interior and window over the engine and has spindly undersize wheels and a thin plastic base, which allow the axle and wheels to rattle about in the bodysell. All the ones I've acquired have needed repairing, probably as a result of a previous owner trying out the 'full spring suspension', as advertised on the carded blister pack. Listed as number T217 in a series that also included a Mangusta and an Alfa Carabo, it is usually found in red – the yellow and gold versions with white bases are rare.

It was also in the Super Cars series from a company called Playmakers, as well as the Super Wheels series from Philmar, though my carded example carries SZE TOY logos. The bubble pack states it's Chinese made, with reference numbers RW24 or TF306, and usually has a Mobil sticker on the front, part of a range of European sports cars bearing stickers of oil companies. I also have a strange caricature style example by SM Toys of Hong Kong – the base states it has a mini pull-back motor, but it has never worked and, like the others, it was found in a local newsagent.

In 1970, Meccano Tri-ang in France, probably influenced by the Dinky model, released a wonderful 1/18 scale remote control toy that I've only found out about recently, so I'm not sure if it was available in this country when new. The box shows a green Abarth on an orange background but the toy is in red with a white interior and superb reproductions of the Campagnolo wheels. A wire goes from the car to a battery box which has a steering wheel allowing the car to be steered about the floor. What a model – I would have killed for this as a child! It probably wouldn't have survived,



▲ YOW MODELLINI Abarth 2000, with Metro partworks model of the SE010 SP that the real car is based on.



▲ Original Gama with identical Bulgarian version from Mikro.

but it's just as elusive to me now as it would have been then, with good condition boxed examples selling online for up to £500.

On the kit front Tron produced a very nice 1/43 one in resin (ref. P316) wrongly described as an Abarth 2000 Scorpion from 1968 which interestingly features the later square headlights. Japanese kit makers Otaki and Nakamura also chose the later version with their similar 1/24 scale kits both of which are impressive but rare and fetch high prices complete and unbuilt. Still with Japanese kits, YOW Modellini currently make a 1/43 resin kit which I've just built and although it isn't perfect the detailing is good and it looks great next to the older 1/43 diecasts. Not a kit but also resin is the 1/43 Pininfarina 2000 'Scorpione' from BEEBOP who also state the car is from 1968. A beautiful replica, spot on from every angle with flawless detail, and those later headlights. Also lacking from my line-up unfortunately!

So there we are, a varied selection of models of a car which still looks fantastic fifty years on. It might not be as famous as some of the other Italian concepts, but it's just as impressive. **DC**

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME-

the biggest Internet portal,
providing you various content:
brand new books, trending movies,
fresh magazines, hot games,
recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price

Cheap constant access to piping hot media

Protect your downloadings from Big brother

Safer, than torrent-trackers

18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages

Brand new content

One site



AVXLIVE ICU

AvaxHome - Your End Place

We have everything for all of your needs. Just open <https://avxlive.icu>

King of the Seven Seas

Mike Pigott continues his series on superhero vehicles as we take a look at the Hot Wheels models based on the recent film adaptation of Aquaman.



Aquaman is one of the world's oldest superheroes, having been patrolling the oceans since his first appearance in *More Fun Comics* #72 in 1941. He is one of only five heroes to have been in print constantly since the 1940s to the present (the others being Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman and Green Arrow – six if you include Robin), unlike others such as Captain America and Green Lantern who were discontinued during the late 1940s and revived in the '60s. Initially a back-up feature in anthology comics, Aquaman was given his own comic in 1962 which ran for several years. The longer stories allowed his character to develop, and instead of fighting mostly smugglers and pirates, he gained a range of super-foes that included Black Manta, the Fisherman, Ocean Master and the Scavenger. He also teamed up with a young partner called Aqualad.

Aquaman is Arthur Curry, the son of a lighthouse keeper and an exiled princess from Atlantis. Although his mother later died, Arthur discovered he had inherited several of her Atlantean abilities, including being able to breathe underwater, and to speak with sea creatures by telepathy. Aquaman travelled to Atlantis to discover his heritage, and later became king. After meeting Mera, an Atlantean princess, he was the first major superhero to get married, and later had a son (although the boy was killed by Black Manta). In the 1990s, Aquaman abdicated from the throne, and got a new look, with a Viking-like beard, no shirt, and a cybernetic hook replacing a hand he had lost in battle.

Aquaman is a character well-known to the general public, as he had his own cartoon series during the 1960s, and featured in the animated *Super Friends* show for many years. He was a founding member of DC's flagship team Justice League of America which ran for decades.

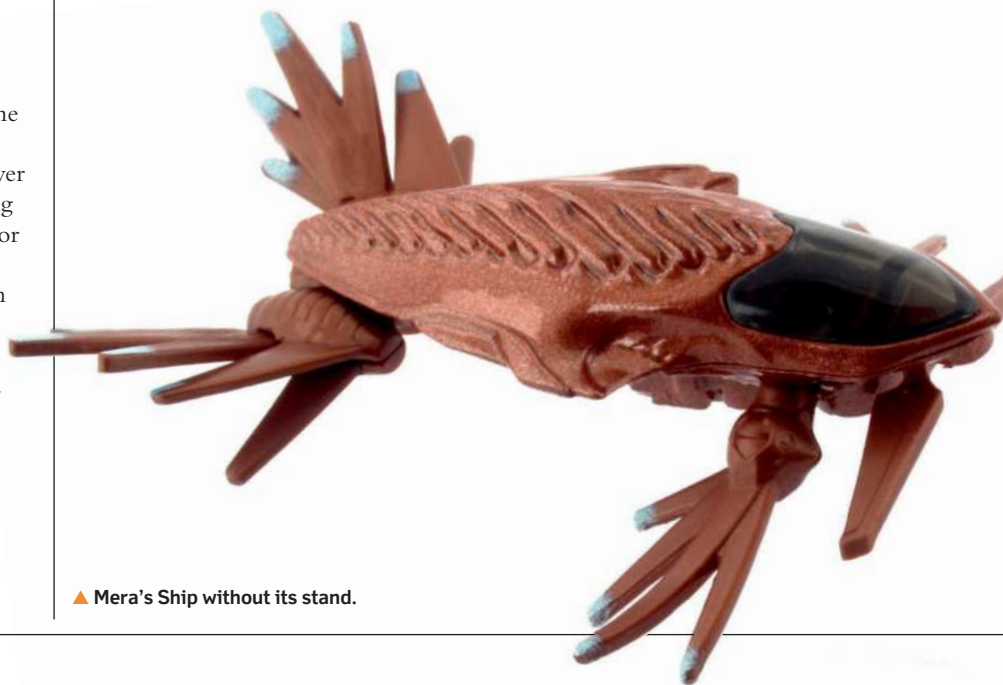
▲ Aquaman in the 1970s.

However, he has often been a subject of satire due to his inherent weakness of not being able to survive out of water for more than an hour.

MOVIE STAR

Aquaman made his big-screen debut in the 2017 film *Justice League*, and was spun off into his own feature, simply entitled *Aquaman*, the following year. The title character was portrayed by rugged Hawaiian actor, Jason Momoa, in a story that stuck very closely to his origin story, but without the 'one hour out of water' limitation. The action-packed film proved very popular, and became one of the highest-grossing films of 2018. In the film two unusual undersea vehicles were used; a weird, fish-like Atlantean craft piloted by Mera (Amber Heard), and a ray-shaped submarine used by the villainous Black Manta.

The film received praise for its visual effects,



▲ Mera's Ship without its stand.

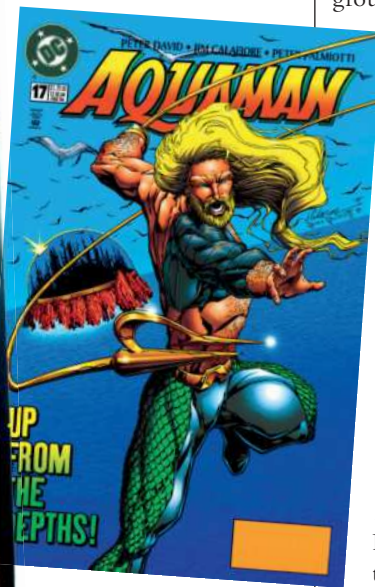


production design, action sequences, and Momoa's performance, while being criticised for its script, dialogue, and story. A sequel, *Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom*, is currently in post-production and is scheduled to be released in December 2023.

HOT WHEELS REPLICA ENTERTAINMENT

Both of the ships were modelled by Hot Wheels as part of its Replica Entertainment series, also known as Hot Wheels Premium. This was a range of models based on TV, film and comic book properties to which Mattel has the licence. The models were the same size as regular Hot Wheels models but made to a much higher standard, with metal bodies and bases, upgraded wheels and better finish and decorations. Some models were based on existing Hot Wheels models, while others were brand new castings. The models were released in

▲ Aquaman packaging.



▲ Aquaman in the 1990s.



▲ Aquaman poster for the 2018 movie.

▼ Black Manta's Submarine was an unusually wide model.



'waves' of usually six items – some were themed groups based on one particular franchise, while other waves contained assorted models from different franchises.

In 2018, Hot Wheels released a wave based on DC Comics movie-related vehicles. Four of the models were based on Batman films, and were not new castings. However, the other two models were based on the craft seen in *Aquaman*, which were the first ever accurate diecast models based on the character.

MERA SHIP

Although Atlanteans are incredible swimmers, when travelling long distances they often use submarine-like vehicles. When Mera rescues Arthur after his imprisonment by Ocean Master, they escape in a very unusual craft. Presumably influenced by the fish that inhabit their world, the Atlantean ship is fish-shaped, and is propelled and steered by fins. The ship has a very organic look about it, and can travel through water at very high speed.

The Hot Wheels model has diecast upper and lower sections, which are finished in a metallic copper colour. The upper half includes the cockpit which is covered by a grey-tinted canopy. The spindly fins are moulded from copper-coloured plastic, and have light blue painted tips. A pair of canards are fitted at front, and there is a pair of turbine engines fitted to the rear.

BLACK MANTA SUBMARINE

Black Manta was created in 1967, and is probably Aquaman's most hated foe, having murdered his son, Arthur Jr. He is a brutal underwater-based mercenary who travels around in a high-tech submarine shaped like a manta ray. In the film he was played by Yahya Abdul-Mateen, and looked very much like his comic book counterpart. A particularly exciting scene saw Aquaman and Manta involved in a savage fight in a Sicilian village.

As in the comic, Manta travelled around in a black submarine based on the form of a manta ray. The Replica Entertainment model is kite-shaped, and unusually wide for a Hot Wheels vehicle. The upper shell and lower wings are diecast metal and painted satin black, with a black plastic part in-between that incorporates the upper hatch and engines. The narrow windshield is made in translucent red plastic, and the engine intakes are painted red. There are gaps between the upper and lower wings, and a stinger is moulded in the 'tail'.

PACKAGING

Both models were packaged in blister cards with the Aquaman movie logo. Included in each pack was a clear plastic stand, which also bears the film logo. Hot Wheels Replica Entertainment models are not widely available in the UK, but are certainly worth finding if you are an Aqua-fan or superhero fan in general, as they are the only decent Aquaman models produced to date. **DC**

Corgi Toys Gift Set 11, put together at a fraction of the cost of a mint original.



Workbench

Rick Wilson shares his current project progress.

I've been playing around with restoring old diecasts since my early teens. When I started a huge partwork project build from Ixo Collections (see opposite page for the latest update), it gave me this idea for this section to bring you tips as I focus on some other projects along the way too.

■ CORGI TOYS GIFT SET NO 11 – E.R.F. DROPSIDE LORRY AND TRAILER WITH CEMENT AND PLANK LOADS

There's just something about a Corgi Toys gift set of a certain era that I've always found so magical. From the evocatively-decorated box to the mini-collection of models inside, it so much reminds me of receiving gifts on birthdays and at Christmas. One I've always fancied getting my hands on is Gift Set No 11 E.R.F. Dropside Lorry and Platform Trailer with Cement and Plank Loads.

Released in March 1960, comprising the previously-released No 456 E.R.F. Dropside Lorry and No 101 Platform Trailer, these carried two of the new Corgi Cargoes range – No 1485 Plank Load and No 1488 Cement Load, that had hit the shops the month before.

The gift set was in the catalogue for four years and, surprisingly, it only sold 129,000 units, according to *The Great Book of Corgi*. This helps command premium prices for a mint set today, so I decided to create my own at a fraction of the price.

► Just the windscreen and cab baseplate to refit, tyres to put back on and loads to be added from here.



► Cleaned, lightly-sanded, primed and masked, ready for the top coats to be sprayed.

▼ Corgi No 456 E.R.F. Dropside Lorry and No 101 Platform Trailer, as bought for just a few pounds each.





The key to my success was in finding examples that were a little tired, but complete. As the components were all only lightly playworn, I took a short cut this time and, rather than completely dismantle and strip, I only removed the small baseplate under the lorry cab, so that I could remove the windscreen. I then cleaned and lightly sanded down the metalwork on the lorry and the trailer, masked the hubs and axles, primed the parts (white for the yellow areas and grey for the blue) and then sprayed the top coats, before reassembly. The cargo loads were in pretty good condition, so I just gave them a quick spray over to freshen them up.

A really simple and quick restoration, and very pleasing to complete. In total, it all came to just under £20, although already having all of the paints in my box of spray cans helped here.

■ FIAT 238 PARTWORK CODE 3

During the last Workbench instalment, in September 2022, I'd finished my Fiat 238 partwork conversion, creating a striking, yellow minibuss. The roofrack had been added thanks to the great value kit by Arena Modelli (www.arenamodelli.com). All that was needed to finish was some luggage and I found the perfect donor in the shape of a 1/43 scale vintage European coach partwork that was cheap enough to justify stealing its cargo for use here. As promised, here is the photo update of the now completely finished minibuss. It's now on display with my 21 other Fiat 238s!

■ DINKY TOYS NO 29C/290 DOUBLE DECKER BUS UPSCALE

Finally, just a quick update on the progress of the Dinky bus upscale for the Shamrock Trains project. Everything is now stripped and paints acquired, and the project has taken an interesting turn with great interest being shown by a major manufacturer to get involved with the venture. More about this next time, when the models will be finished. **DC**

▼ The Fiat 238 Code 3 is now complete, thanks to the addition of some suitable luggage on the roof rack.



■ IXO COLLECTIONS 1/8 SCALE PORSCHE 917 & ALPINE A110 KITS

Another slight delay since my last update, in the September 2022 issue. I've now received the next eight instalments, taking us up to 64 of the 96, so we're exactly at two-thirds distance now. For this update, parts 57 to 64 brought us all the remaining components for the injection system that sits over the mighty flat-12 engine, so that area is pretty much finished.

In addition, attention has been turned to the front of the car, and specifically the interior of the cockpit. Both seats are now installed and the eagle-eyed of you may have already spotted that one is significantly bigger than the other. This is correct as the regulations required two seats to be fitted, but didn't specify that the second one had to be full size! The dashboard has also been put together and wired up (a light for the instrument panel and three working push buttons – more about these in a later instalment).

Big news! Ixo's latest 1/8 scale diecast kit build to be launched is the beautiful Alpine A110 1600S rally car. Parts 1 to 4 are already here (see photo) and, with the 917 nearing completion, I'm looking forward to getting stuck into this one too.

To find out more about these incredible diecast kit builds, and to order, visit Ixo's specific partworks website page for these at www.ixocollections.com/en/15-porsche-917kh and www.ixocollections.com/en/content/11-alpine-a110-1600s.



▲ Lots of progress since the last instalment – we now have the injection system over the engine complete and the seats are in and dashboard complete (and wired up).



▲ The latest kit from Ixo Collections is this beautiful 1/8 scale Alpine A110 1600S rally car. With the 917 nearing completion, I'm looking forward to getting stuck into this one too.



The playground racers

John Tailby remembers some early diecast racing cars and, in particular, those of BRM.

It's been mentioned before how collecting models from 'second tier' manufacturers and, in particular, a rather erratic Lone Star can prove to be particularly rewarding, with many exciting new discoveries still to be made. These usually relate to previously unknown model variants, or new colour schemes, but occasionally something much bigger and much more exciting is unearthed.

When I was at school in the 1950s, I collected diecast racing cars and very often used these in races with my friends on the playground at breaktime. These were amongst the first Dinky Toys to be produced after the war and they were advertised in issue of the *Meccano Magazine* at the time.

The toy cars had a habit of turning upside down in play, causing the white paint on the drivers' helmets to wear off. Nowadays, mint and boxed examples can command high prices, but less so for play worn examples.

Dinky Toys numbering was changed to a new system in 1954. The number on the base plate of each car indicates its age.

Bodies are a one-piece casting, including driver and steering wheel, they have a black riveted metal base with cast wheels and grey rubber tyres. Raised letters on the base show "Dinky Toys", "Made in England by Meccano Ltd", and the type of car with the number of the model.

Dinky No	Issued	Description	Colour	Racing No.
23F/232	1952	Alfa Romeo	Red	8
23G/233	1953	Cooper-Bristol	Green	6
23H/234	1953	Ferrari	Blue/Yellow	5
23J/235	1953	H.W.M	Green	7
23K/230	1953	Talbot-Lago	Blue	4
23N/231	1953	Maserati	Red/White	9

Dinky No	Issued	Description	Colour	Racing No.
110	1956	Aston Martin Le Mans	Green/Grey	22
163	1956	Bristol 450 Le Mans	Green	27
236	1956	Connaught F1	Green	32
237	1957	Mercedes Bens F1	White	30
238	1957	Jaguar D Type Le Mans	Blue	No Number
329	1958	Vanwall F1	Green	35
133	1955	Cunningham CR5 American Road Racer Le Mans	White	31

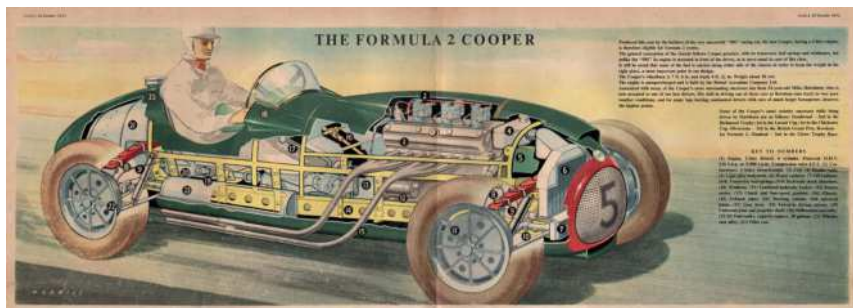
▲ The Dinky 23 series racing cars that were such fun in the playground.

These were the original 'playground racers', and were almost indestructible. Many well-playworn examples have survived to this day, even if most of the paint and the tyres are missing. Good subjects for restoration though!

In contrast to this simple construction, a detailed 'cutaway drawing' of one of the cars, No 233 the Formula 2 Cooper-Bristol, was featured in



▲ The Corgi Kits' Silverstone Pits box featured artwork prominently featuring the Corgi #7 BRM.



▲ The car modelled as Dinky's No 233, the Formula 2 Cooper-Bristol, was featured in the Eagle comic of 24th October 1952.



▲ Dinky Toys No 243 B.R.M. Racing Car, with a larger, friction-drive, plastic version of the same car.

the *Eagle* comic of 24th October 1952. Lots of information accompanied the really superb 16 inch long drawing.

Later Dinky issues had a bit more detail, with separate driver and steering wheel, and cast wheels with black tyres. Subjects included not only F1 and F2 cars, but also Le Mans racing cars, as seen in the tables on page 42.

During my school days, little did I know of the real-life drama that was being played out on the Grand Prix and rally circuits of Great Britain and Europe in the 1950s.

After the war, Grand Prix racing slowly re-started and, by 1948, motor racing returned to normal – the French GP was returned to Reims, classic Monaco returned, the Italian GP was run at Turin and a new circuit was built in Holland at Zandvoort. Goodwood opened and Britain staged a real Grand Prix at Silverstone. German and Italian cars dominated and new British cars took a long time to develop. Many talented British drivers, including Reg Parnwell, Mike Hawthorn and Stirling Moss, drove German and Italian cars because of the lack of British cars.

British Racing Motors (BRM) from Bourne, in Lincolnshire, strove to produce a car that would beat the world. The driving force behind the project was Raymond Mays, a racing driver himself in pre-war days and up to 1950. He had great success with his 'ERA' racing cars, which were the forerunners of the BRMs and were built in the same workshops at Bourne, situated in the grounds of Eastgate House, his family home.

Raymond Mays wrote an article describing the new BRM, in the *Meccano Magazine* of August 1952, entitled 'Britain's Grand Prix Challenger', with an outline of the BRM design. The V16 BRM had a complex 1,500cc supercharged engine, and it was probably the fastest Formula 1 racing car ever built, said Raymond Mays. In spite of this, it was unreliable at first and results were disappointing. One of the BRM supporters, Tony Vandervell, lost

faith in the project and left to build his own racing car, which became the Vanwall. Its success boosted British morale and took many wins, driven by Stirling Moss.

Meccano Dinky Toys did not make a model of the V16 BRM. In fact, in the August 1952 issue, the Alfa Romeo Racing Car No 23F was advertised as being ready during August. The first in the range described earlier.

The Crescent Toy Co did however include the BRMV16 in its range of racing cars, as No 1285. This was the MK II version in green, with racing number 7, made from 1956 to 1960. It had a white driver and base. Crescent racing cars were diecast in two parts, one being the body and the other comprising driver and base.

In 1954, the racing formula was changing and a new engine was needed, resulting in the 'P25' 4 cylinder, 2,500cc non-supercharged model. By this time, BRM's main sponsor was Alfred Owen of the Rubery Owen Group, and Raymond Mays had given up race driving, but was actively involved as the Race Manager, Publicist and Fundraiser. By 1959, BRM was very much in contention, gaining its first Grand Prix victory at the 1959 Dutch GP, driven by Jo Bonnier.

Corgi Toys made the 1959 P25 BRM in two



▲ Two versions of the Crescent BRM.

VINTAGE RACING CARS

▼ Diecast BRMs by Crescent, Corgi, Dinky and Matchbox.



▲ Two versions of the Corgi Toys BRM.



▲ Even Matchbox got in on the act, with a wonderful little replica.



▲ Before BRM, Raymond Mays was involved with ERA – here we have two versions of the Models of Yesteryear release, No Y14.

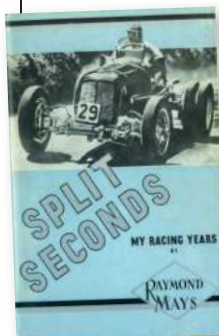
colours – green and blue – with a Union Flag and racing number 7. The models had a plastic screen with separate seat and steering wheel.

Corgi Kit No 603 (Playcraft Toys Ltd, London) has all the parts for building the Grand Prix Silverstone pits. The box front shows the 1950s racing scene in colour with pits, circuit and three racing cars. The foremost being the #7 BRM described above. I have the box in my cabinet as a background for the models.

In 1961, the regulations were again changed, this time to 1,500cc, and the new V8 1.5-litre 188bhp BRM engine was ready in 1962. These early

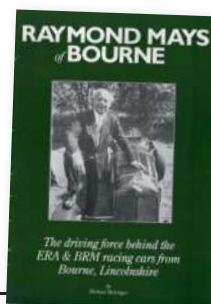


▲ First page of the Raymond Mays article in the Meccano Magazine of August 1952.



▲ Further reading – Split Seconds, My Racing Years, by Raymond Mays himself.

► Further reading – a wonderful booklet that was published much more recently, written by Michael McGregor.



mid-engine cars had upswept exhaust pipes and became known as the 'stackpipe' BRM. The P57, as it was known, evolved into the most successful of all the BRMs and, by the end of 1962, had won the drivers' world title in the hands of Graham Hill, plus the constructors' title for the team. BRM remained a championship-chasing concern during the mid 1960s.

Dinky Toys Model No 243, released in 1964, was the green championship-winning car with driver and removable yellow engine cover and plastic screen, with spun wheels and rubber tyres, and racing number 7. It was not robust enough for playground racing, but by this time I had left school and I was training to be an accountant and auditor. In connection with my work, I met Raymond Mays in Bourne, in the seventies, and I became interested in his career as a racing driver and also father of the ERA and BRM projects – indeed, many would say 'The Father of British Motor Racing'.

In 1974, the team was renamed Stanley BRM, but BRM had seen its best years and, by the end of 1977, had faded from GP racing. Raymond Mays writes about the high point in the team's history "The triumph of BRM in 1962, with the winning of the World Championship after 12 years of effort, was the realisation of my greatest ambition and the crown of work, to which I have given most of my life and I hope this will be repeated many times." This quote is taken from *The BRM Story*, by Louis T Stanley, published in 1966 with an introduction by Raymond Mays.

In 1978, his lifetime service to British Motor Racing was officially recognised by his being made a Commander of the British Empire. A Memorial to Raymond Mays can be seen in the form of a permanent exhibition in his home town at the Heritage Centre, 21 South Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire. A plaque on the gate at the rear of

Eastgate House commemorates the place where both ERA and BRM cars were made.

In 2022, the marque celebrated both the 60th anniversary of its successful World Championship season, and the 50th anniversary of its last ever Grand Prix win, taken by Jean-Pierre Beltoise, at the rain-soaked 1972 Grand Prix. So I shall now hand over to the editor for this part of the story... **DC**



Never lost for things to talk about, Rick Wilson shares another selection from his collection.

Being a bit of a motorsport enthusiast, and living within just a few miles of all that BRM history in Bourne, it is inevitable that a few models of the marque would form part of my collection. Some models are harder to come by than others, such as the splendid Mike Pilbeam-designed P201 – BRM's last Grand Prix racer. Spark has made several versions, but my funds haven't quite stretched that far yet.

But neatly following on from John Tailby's nostalgic look at some vintage BRM racers on the immediately preceding pages, two of my collection are more recent issues that both commemorate important milestones in the marque's history. BRM's one and only World Championship title was secured by Graham Hill in 1962, driving a P57, and its last ever Formula 1 Grand Prix victory came courtesy of a superb drive by Jean-Pierre Beltoise at the rain-soaked 1972 Monaco Grand Prix in a Marlboro-sponsored P160B.

BRM P57 – 1962 FORMULA 1 WORLD CHAMPION

Designed by Tony Rudd, the P57 struggles in 1961

▲ 1962 title-winning BRM P25 and 1972 Monaco GP-winning P160B.



▲ Cover of the 40th issue of the Panina Formula 1 magazine partwork that accompanied the model in 2017.

▼ What a difference 10 years made.

thanks to the new 1.5-litre regulations for that season, with the team running the same Coventry Climax engine as Cooper and Lotus. But when BRM's own V8 was ready for the start of the 1962 season, the car was transformed into a real winner.

At the first race of the season, the Dutch Grand Prix, at Zandvoort, Hill won the race and also took the honours in three other races that year – the German, Italian and South African Grand Prix. In a nine-race season, he won the title easily and only Jim Clark came close, with three wins. Clark was actually leading the final round, and would have won the championship, but retired from the race, leaving Hill, who had been running second, to take both the win and the title.

Brumm has released several models of the P57 over the years and, in 2021, in anticipation of the 60th anniversary the following year, it re-released Graham Hill's championship-winning car in special packaging and with a very accurate driver figure. The model depicts Hill's car at the Dutch Grand Prix, the first race of the season where Hill won.

The addition of the excellent driver figure really adds to the model and it is finished off by being presented in a special outer sleeve, which features





a chequered flag background and bears the legend "WORLD CHAMPION".

BRM P160B – 1972 MONACO GRAND PRIX WINNER

The Tony Southgate-designed P160 had made its debut during the 1971 season. With Formula 1 cars now running much more powerful 3-litre engines, this BRM was a very different beast indeed. Using BRM's own V12 engine, the P160 was revised for the 1972 season and designated the P160B. The team had also changed from Yardley sponsorship to wearing the famous red and white of Marlboro cigarettes.

Having won two races in 1971, the one and only success for Marlboro-BRM in 1972 was at Monaco, where Jean-Pierre Beltoise excelled in the rain. Panini's superb, long-running series of both classic and modern Formula 1 racing cars has been an absolute boon to collectors since it began in 1971, providing excellent and accurate 1/43 scale replicas at a very affordable price. Each model comes with a magazine, full of details about the real cars. The 1972 Monaco GP winner was released as issue 40 of the series, in 1972, supplied on a decorated plinth. The only things missing are a driver figure and, in the case of this one, the Marlboro decals.

From the late 1960s, cigarette sponsorship played an important part in funding teams and drivers. When this was rightfully banned, motorsport didn't really have any problems surviving, but it did create a problem for model manufacturers, as they were no longer allowed to sell models with decals already applied if these were to be sold in window display boxes on retail shelves. Most manufacturers get around this by supplying a sheet of decals, tucked away out of sight under the plinth, to be applied by the purchaser later.

This has not been the case with the partwork releases. To keep costs down, these are supplied without, which has given rise to some excellent garage industry enterprises. One of

1 Wider everything and aerodynamic aids set the 1972 design worlds apart from its older sibling.

2 The evolution is just as evident from the rear.



▲ Christmas card commemorating the 1972 Monaco win from a painting by Michael Turner and signed inside by Raymond Mays.



▲ Brumm's 1962 BRM P57 in its commemorative box.

these, thankfully at the very top end of the quality scale, is Scott Dunbar's Grand Prix Decals. I have bought many in recent years and his excellent decals transform the models into accurate replicas. Scott's superb products can be found through his ebay listings (search for seller 'grandprixdecals') or via his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GrandPrixDecals. **DC**



▲ Partwork P160B with genuine period race sticker.



DIECAST • MODELS • HOBBIES • TOYS

Clevelands Wholesale Limited
Woodcock Hill Industrial Estate
Harefield Road, Rickmansworth
Herts WD3 1PQ



FOLLOW US
@ClevelandsTrade



LIKE US
ClevelandsTrade



SEE LATEST MODELS
user/ClevelandsTrade

Tel: +44 (0)1923 711772
Email: sales@clevelandsdiecast.co.uk
www.clevelandsdiecast.co.uk

Wholesale distribution of all major model, hobby and toy brands to the trade

TRADE ONLY

UK DISTRIBUTOR FOR:



1/43 MCLAREN ARTURA VOLCANO BLUE



1/43 LOTUS EMIRA HETHEL YELLOW



1/43 LAND ROVER DEFENDER 110 EXPLORER
PRO INDUS SILVER (DIECAST)

TSM MODEL™
SCALE MINIATURES



1/12 MCLAREN F1 GTR NO.59 1995 LE MANS 24 HRS WINNER



1/18 LOTUS EMIRA MAGMA RED



1/18 FORD GT 64 PROTOTYPE HERITAGE EDITION



1/18 ABARTH 595 GARA WHITE

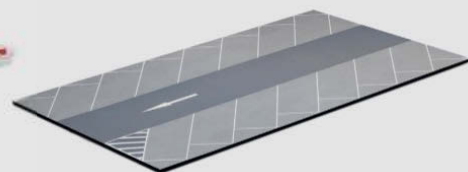
**MINI
GT**



1/64 LAND ROVER DEFENDER 110
1989 CAMEL TROPHY AMAZON TEAM FRANCE (RHD)



1/64 CAR HAULER TRAILER TYPE A SILVER



PARKING LOT PAD TYPE B 40 X 25 CM



Wholesale distribution of all major model, hobby and toy brands to the trade



Power Trax Super Trucks

Mike Pigott looks at a set of four monster trucks that were available only as an on-pack cereal offer.



Over the years, cereal companies have offered various free gifts in cereal packets in order to attract extra sales. Small items were often enclosed in cereal boxes, such as swap cards, plastic figurines and small model kits. Sometimes the prize would be printed on the back of the cereal box, and could be cut out and assembled by the purchaser. Larger items that were too large or expensive to enclose in the box were also offered, but in the form of mail-away promotions in which coupons needed to be collected from boxes. When the correct number of tokens had been saved, they were mailed off to the company, and the prize was sent by post to the customer.

During the 1980s and '90s, model cars were becoming increasingly collectible, a trend that was picked up by cereal companies. In 1984, Kellogg's offered a Matchbox Model A Ford Van in an exclusive livery to mark the company's 60th anniversary. The promotion proved so popular that Kellogg's could not keep up with demand. Over the next few years, Kellogg's initiated a number of on-pack offers with individual diecast models or sets. At first, mostly Matchbox cars were offered, but later different manufacturers including Corgi, Lledo and Polistil were used. Why different companies were used is uncertain; possibly they had models in the range that suited the promotion, or perhaps the order was put

▲ Crazy Horse before fitting decals.



▲ Front of promotional packet.

out to tender and awarded to the company with the lowest price.

In 1994, Kellogg's began a new promotion on packets of Corn Flakes that offered a set of four monster trucks, which were all the rage at that time. This time the models were produced by French company, Majorette.

MONSTER TRUCKS

The first monster Truck was Bigfoot, created in 1979 when Bob Chandler of Missouri attached a military surplus 4x4 chassis with 48-inch wheels to his Ford F-250 pick-up truck. Bigfoot toured county fairs and race meetings, where it proved very popular driving over and crushing rows of old cars. Over the next few years other pick-up owners added massive wheels and suspension to their trucks, and competed in racing and stunt driving. By the mid-1980s, monster truck racing had become a sport in its own right, with the popularity spreading to other countries, including Great Britain.

Matchbox was the first major diecast manufacturer to produce a range of monster trucks in 1986, with the Super Trucks range (called Super Chargers in some regions). This range was obviously aimed at the American market, but proved popular in the UK and Europe. Each Super Truck was based on an existing Matchbox casting, but fitted with a deep chrome plastic base with huge wheels and tyres. Some of the



Matchbox items were based on real Monster Trucks, such as Bigfoot, USA-1 and Taurus, but others were completely imaginary. Hot Wheels followed in 1991, with a licensed range called 'Bigfoot Champions', consisting of four models featuring Bigfoot and its companion trucks.

MAJORETTE

Majorette, of France, produced a range of Monster Trucks in 1987 called 'Super Rockers'. These were similar to Matchbox Super Trucks, in that they were based on standard models fitted with new, tall bases and huge wheels. There were six vehicles in the range initially, which consisted of three castings in two designs each.

The range produced for Kellogg's was called 'Super Power Trax Trucks'. It was offered on packs of Corn Flakes, with eight tokens needed for each model. There were two tokens on each standard packet, and three on the large family-size boxes. You would need to get through a lot of Corn Flakes to get a full set. The promotion was advertised on TV by motoring journalist, Quentin Willson.

Standard Majorette Super Rockers castings were used for the promotional models, although they were finished with shiny, vacuum-plated paint jobs. Presumably to cut costs, the trucks had no tampo-printed decorations, and instead a sheet of metallic stickers was included with each one.

- 1 Crazy Horse with American Indian motifs.
- 2 Thunder Warrior in original state.
- 3 Thunder Warrior with decals, showing bizarre green engine and lumber load.
- 4 Firestorm without labels.

CRAZY HORSE

This casting had been in the Majorette '200 series' since 1984, and was based on an early model Chevrolet Blazer with the rear top removed. The 200 series Blazer had large (but not massive) wheels and tampo-printed designs. It was available in two versions – a standard pick-up and a tow truck, hence the light bar on the cab roof. A rear overhang behind the cab held two towing jibs in place, but on the pick-up these were replaced with a roll bar and spotlights.

For the Kellogg's promotion, it was painted a very attractive shade of metallic emerald green. Named 'Crazy Horse', it had a Native American chief theme, and the enclosed stickers included a chief's profile, arrows and feathers. The interior was red plastic, and included part of the rear bed and towing hitch, which wasn't much use on a truck this tall. The glazing and light bar component was in amber plastic, and the roll bar was black, including the spotlights. Like all the range, it rode on a bare metal chassis with extended axle boxes, and these were fitted with working suspension. The wheel hubs were white, and were fitted with black rubber tyres that all have 'Super 4x4 Radial' hot-foiled on the sidewalls.

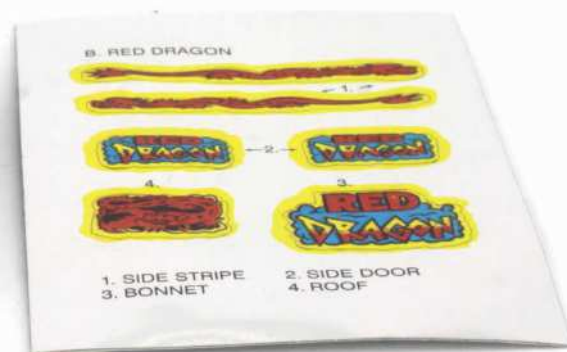
THUNDER WARRIOR

Thunder Warrior was based on a Toyota Hilux pick-up that was first introduced to the 200 series in 1982. Initially it was just a standard truck with regular-sized

PROMOTIONAL DIECASTS



◀ Red Dragon (in metallic yellow) with the sheet of stickers.



wheels, and was fitted with an opening bonnet. As a Super Power truck, it was painted metallic orange, and had stickers with a lightning theme, plus a sword motif on the roof. The interior was green, and incorporated the wing mirrors, engine and a load of lumber in the cargo bed, none of which looked particularly convincing in this colour. A chrome roll-bar with spotlights was mounted behind the cab.

FIRESTORM

This was the oldest casting in the range, having been introduced to the 200 series way back in 1980. Initially it was a stock-standard Jeep Cherokee wagon, with normal-sized wheels, opening tail-gate and grooves across the roof. In 1984 the model was modified with larger wheels and a smooth roof, allowing some wild tampo-printed designs to be added. For the Kellogg's promotion it was painted bright ruby red, plus 'Firestorm' decals with fireball graphics. The interior was white, the glazing was clear plastic, although the tail-gate was in non-matching black plastic.

RED DRAGON

As mentioned earlier, Majorette only had three monster trucks in its Super Rockers range at this time, so the fourth item in the promotion re-used one of the previous castings. Red Dragon was also based on the Chevy Blazer, but with a different finish. The funny thing about Red Dragon was that it wasn't red, it was metallic yellow-gold. The interior was now in black plastic, as was the roll-bar, and the glazing was amber. The decals featured very long red dragons along the sides and a coiled dragon on the roof.

PACKAGING

All models were packaged in plain white boxes that were typical of cereal premiums of the era. A sheet of

The range produced for Kellogg's was called 'Super Power Trax Trucks'. It was offered on packs of Corn Flakes, with eight tokens needed for each model. There were two tokens on each standard packet, and three on the large family-size boxes.



▲ Firestorm with fireball decals.



▲ Red Dragon with red dragons affixed.

foil stickers was included under the model and had to be fitted by the purchaser. If more than one model was ordered, they were posted in a brown cardboard outer box. The promotion seems to have been solely in the UK, as only Majorette's UK address is listed on the packaging. **DC**

WANTED!

Your Diecast Collection!

Corgi | Dinky | EFE | OOC | Tekno |
In fact, anything!
Top prices paid | Can collect

Contact S&J Models now!
01606 872786 | 07531 949069
email: sjmodels@tiscali.co.uk

Find our NEW model store in Blackpool

Located behind the tower, next to Boots chemist. 11.30am - 4pm 7 days a week!
Thousands of models in store, mainly Corgi, Lledo, EFE etc.



LEEDS MODEL CENTRE *(established in 1981)*

COLLECTIONS URGENTLY REQUIRED

Lego, Lledo, Matchbox, Corgi, Old Dinky, EFE, Brooklin, Conrad, Lion, Hornby, Scalextric, Britains, Solido, NZG, Tekno, boxed, railway etc.

★ **LARGE SURPLUS STOCKS A SPECIALITY** ★

YOU NAME IT WE BUY IT!

Can collect from anywhere in the world within 48 hours! *Send us a list or call our hotline now!*

BARGAIN WORLD: 95 Market Place, Heckmondwike, WF16 0HB Email: jonathan@bargainworldleeds.co.uk Tel: 07702 046795

CORGI THROUGH THE YEARS

Rick Wilson continues his series of year-by-year articles from the beginning of the brand in 1956. We restart the series with a look at the new models released during 1964.



After an unintentionally extended break, from the January 2019 issue, our Corgi Years series returns at last. And what a year to come back to, with an impressive number of releases and plenty of new tooling. Most notable of which was an entire new range.

The Corgi Classics range of veteran and vintage class vehicles was most impressive, with new style boxes and plenty of detail to the accurately replicated diecasts. Launched at a special event in January, held at the Dorchester Hotel in London, hopes were high for this new style of model. But sales would prove to be a little disappointing, unfortunately, although there are still plenty around to collect today, and at fairly reasonable prices too.

The first of these to hit the shops was the 1915 Model T Ford, released in either black (as No 9011), or yellow (9012). Complete with a pair of figures in the front seats, the sales for both colours would total just over 300,000, according to The Great Book of Corgi, before being withdrawn in 1969. Also released in January was the much more successful No 475 Citroën Safari Olympic Winter Sports. Based on the No 436 Citroën Safari, it was fitted with a roof rack and two pairs of skis. The model was also supplied with a skier figure, who was holding two ski poles. On the bonnet, the Olympic emblem was displayed.

Only available for a short time, the model amassed an impressive sales figure (approaching 400,000), helped, no doubt, by the impressive counter-top display provided to retailers.

February brought us the next new Corgi Classics release, in the shape of the 1927 Le Mans-winning the Bentley 3-litre. Manufactured in green (No 9001), and a non-authentic red (9002), sales of this model would prove to be a lot more in line with expectations, with a total sales figure of around half a million by the time it was withdrawn in 1969. Continuing the motorsport theme, this month also witnessed the arrival of No 317 Monte Carlo BMC Mini Cooper S. This was a very late decision to celebrate the success of Paddy Hopkirk's win at the Rally Monte Carlo the previous month. Using the basic Mini casting, a spotlight was added to the roof and it was dressed in the iconic red and white works livery and adorned with graphics replicating those of the real car's. Like the Citroën Safari released the previous month, this was a time-sensitive issue and was withdrawn the following year, but not before racking up in excess of 300,000 sales in its one year of production. The final new release for February was a version of the Commer Ambulance that had featured in the Commer Constructor Gift Set (GS24) from 1963. For the standard release, the rear body section was fixed in place. Sold for two years like this, over 200,000 were produced.

▼ Corgi Classics No 9021 Daimler 38HP, 9031 1910 Renault (not released until 1965), 9001 Bentley Le Mans and 9013 Model T Ford. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 475 Citroën Safari Olympic Winter Sports. Photo credit: Vectis.



▲ No 317 Monte Carlo BMC Mini Cooper S. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 463 Commer Ambulance. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 431 Volkswagen Pick-up. Photo: Vectis.



▲ GS13 Fordson Major Tractor and Four Furrow Plough. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 315 Simca 1000. Photo: Vectis.

1



2



3



4



1 No 255 Austin A60 Motor School Car (LHD export issue).. **2** No 245 Buick Riviera. **3** GS35 London Passenger Transport Set. **4** No 468 London Transport Routemaster Bus. All four photos: Vectis.

For March, Gift Set 18 (released in August 1961) got a sort of revamp, with the addition of a driver figure, and was renumbered as GS13. The plough now had plated blades and the linkage on the tractor was also modified. Additionally, this month saw a reworking of the Volkswagen vans, now in pick-up guise, painted yellow with a moulded plastic rear tilt (either red or olive green). Both of these releases were around until 1966, with sales figures of 206,000 and 243,000 respectively.

In April, another two newbies arrived. No 315 Simca Sports Car was vacuum-plated with silver and featured racing stripes. It proved popular with in excess of 360,000 sales during its two-year run. No 466 Commer Milk Float was another legacy of the Commer Constructor set from 1963, again with a fixed rear body. Painted white with a light blue rear body, some can be found with Co-Op labels attached, which means they were part of a later special promotional offer. Standard sales exceeded 150,000 until it was withdrawn in 1966.

During June, five new releases went on sale, although two of these were versions of the same car. No 236 Austin A60 Motor School Car featured steering front wheels, operated by turning the roof-mounted 'wheel'. Painted in pale blue, the model was also sold as No 255, which was the left-hand-drive export version and was painted a slightly darker shade of blue. Both withdrawn in 1968, combined sales were close to the million mark. Also released this month were the incredibly popular No 468 London Transport Routemaster Bus with various side adverts during its ten-year production (in excess of 1.4

million sales), No 245 Buick Riviera (835,000 sales up to its withdrawal in 1968) and the Bedford TK-cabbed Circus Giraffe Transporter in Chipperfields Circus red and blue livery, complete with two plastic giraffes (approaching 1 million sales up to and including 1971).

The summer period was relatively quiet and we only saw two new releases in July (none for August) – another of the new Corgi Classics, the 1910 Daimler 38HP in red (No 9021, 200,000 sold up to 1969) and GS31, the London Passenger Transport Set, which comprised No 468 London Bus, No 418 Austin Taxi and a policeman figure mounted on a traffic island. Despite being around for four years, incredibly, this superb set only sold just over 80,000 units.

Back into the swing of things in September, one of my absolute Corgi Toys favourites was unleashed – No 1127 Simon Snorkel Fire Engine. Beautifully-engineered, with a superb pantograph extending boom, the model also featured stabilising legs that pulled out and six fireman figures. Well in excess of a million were sold until the end of production in 1976. Two cars also saw the light of day this month with the release of No 253 Mercedes-Benz 220 SE Coupe (in production until 1967 with over 400,000 sales) and No 312 'E' Type Jaguar Competition Model (to 1969, over 700,000 sales).

Another last-minute decision saw the Land Rover casting reworked into No 472 Public Address Vehicle. Painted in green with a yellow rear body (bearing the legend "VOTE CORGI"), so as not to show bias to the major political parties, the



▲ No 448 BMC Mini Police Van. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 1127 Simon Snorkel Fire Engine.



CORGI TOYS 1964 RELEASES					
No	Title	Scale	Released	Withdrawn	Sales
60	Fordson Power Major Tractor	-	December	1966	341,000
61	Four Furrow Plough	-	December	1971	307,000*
155	Lotus Climax	1/40	December	1968	984,000
236	Austin A60 Motor School Car	1/47	June	1968	617,000
245	Buick Riviera	-	June	1968	835,000
247	Mercedes-Benz 600 Pullman	1/52	November	1969	977,000
253	Mercedes-Benz 220 SE Coupe	1/48	September	1967	411,000
255	Austin A60 Motor School Car	1/47	June	1968	364,000
312	'E' Type Jaguar Competition Model	1/47	September	1969	710,000
315	Simca 1000	1/44	April	1966	351,000
317	Monte Carlo BMC Mini Cooper S	1/42	February	1965	308,000
431	Volkswagen Pick-up	1/47	March	1966	243,000
448	Mini Police Van with dog handler and dog	1/42	October	1969	908,000
450	Austin Mini Van	1/42	December	1966	232,000
463	Commer Ambulance	1/45	February	1966	213,000
466	Commer Milk Float	1/45	April	1966	151,000
468	London Transport Routemaster Bus	1/65	June	1974	1,394,000*
472	Public Address Vehicle	1/46	October	1966	147,000
475	Citroën Safari Olympic Winter Sports	1/48	January	1965	387,000
503	Circus Giraffe Transporter	-	June	1971	860,000*
900	1927 Bentley 3-Litre Le Mans Winner	-	February	1969	497,000*
901	1915 Model T Ford	1/40	January	1969	306,000*
1127	Simon Snorkel Fire Engine	1/48	September	1976	1,163,000*
9013	Model T Ford with hood	1/40	November	1969	161,000
9021	1910 Daimler 38HP	-	July	1969	200,000
GS13	Fordson Power Major Tractor & Plough	1/40	March	1966	206,000
GS31	The 'Riviera' Gift Set	-	December	1968	372,000
GS35	London Passenger Transport Set	-	July	1968	81,000

Source: The Great Book of Corgi 1956-1983

* + 1969 sales (figures lost in fire)

- 5 No 466 Commer Milk Float. Photo: Vectis.
 6 No 236 Austin A60 Motor School Car. Photo: Vectis.
 7 No 253 Mercedes-Benz 220 SE Coupe. Photo: Vectis.
 8 No 312 'E' Type Jaguar Competition Model. Photo: Vectis.
 9 GS31 The 'Riviera' Gift Set. Photo: Vectis.

model also featured a pair of figures and two roof-mounted loudspeakers. It sold nearly 150,000 units during its two years. Also going on sale this month was No 448 Mini Police Van with dog handler and dog. Featuring "POLICE" marking on either side of the dark blue body, it also had opening rear doors and came with a dog handler and German Shepherd figurines. Selling close to 1 million up to 1969, this was another success for Corgi.

The last of the year's Corgi Classics models hit the shelves in November and was a new version of the Model T released in January. This time it came with a deployed hood and was painted blue with yellow wheels. It comprised a new figure too, in the shape of a white-coated figure who could 'operate' the cranking handle at the front of the car. Relatively low sales of just over 160,000 during its five years were a real surprise for such an excellent model. This contrasts with the other November release, which was also withdrawn in 1969, but sold nearly 1 million during this time. No 247 Mercedes-Benz 600 Pullman featured an ingenious mechanism that operated windscreen wipers. They were actually painted onto clear discs mounted inside the windscreen, which also featured a rain-like pattern. The wipers operated as the car was pushed along on a clever cam system.

So onto the final month and a big push for the Christmas sales, with superb new releases and reworkings. No 450 Austin Mini Van was a modified Police Van, with no aerial and rear doors without horizontal security bars, painted Olive Green. Sold for only two years, sales of well over 200,000 were good. A really popular model also came to be this month – No 155 Lotus Climax.



▼ No 503 Circus Giraffe Transporter. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 247 Mercedes-Benz 600 Pullman. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 155 Lotus Climax. Photo: Vectis.



▲ No 450 Austin Mini Van. Photo: Vectis.

Basically a good replica of Jim Clark's hugely successful Lotus 25, it was a popular choice, selling close to 1 million during its four-year shelf life. The Buick Riviera released earlier in the year was paired with a cabin cruise on a trailer with water-skiing and boat 'captain' figures. The gift set (GS35) was around for four years, selling nearly 400,000 units, and is incredibly sought-after today. Finally, the models that made up Gift Set 13 earlier in the year were now released as separate items as No 60 Fordson Power Major Tractor and No 61 Four Furrow Plough. Both were reworkings of the earlier releases (Nos 55 and 56 respectively). The tractor was only around for two years (over 340,000 sold), but the plough would last until 1971, selling over 300,000 in that time.

Moving onto the first half of 1965 next time, we can look forward to a myriad of military releases, the Saint's Volvo P1800 and the Wall's Ice Cream Van, plus many more. **DC**

CORGI TOYS 1964 PRODUCTION COLOURS		
No	Title	Colours produced
60	Fordson Power Major Tractor	Blue with red or orange wheels
61	Four Furrow Plough	Blue with vacuum-plated blades
155	Lotus Climax	British Racing Green with yellow stripe
236	Austin A60 Motor School Car	Light blue
245	Buick Riviera	Gold, pale blue or light metallic blue
247	Mercedes-Benz 600 Pullman	Metallic dark red
253	Mercedes-Benz 220 SE Coupe	Metallic dark blue or metallic maroon
255	Austin A60 Motor School Car	Light blue (slightly darker shade than No 236)
312	'E' Type Jaguar Competition Model	Vacuum-plated light gold or silver
315	Simca 1000	Vacuum-plated silver with racing stripes
317	Monte Carlo BMC Mini Cooper S	Red with white roof
431	Volkswagen Pick-up	Yellow with either red or olive green rear cover
448	Mini Police Van with dog handler and dog	Dark blue
450	Austin Mini Van	Olive green
463	Commer Ambulance	White with translucent dark blue rear windows
466	Commer Milk Float	White with blue rear body
468	London Transport Routemaster Bus	Red
472	Public Address Vehicle	Green with yellow plastic rear body
475	Citroën Safari Olympic Winter Sports	White
503	Circus Giraffe Transporter	Red with blue plastic rear body
900	1927 Bentley 3-Litre Le Mans Winner	Released in green as No 9001, red as No 9002
901	1915 Model T Ford	Released in black as No 9011, yellow as No 9012
1127	Simon Snorkel Fire Engine	Red with silver rear deck
9013	Model T Ford with hood	Blue with yellow wheels
9021	1910 Daimler 38HP	Red with orangey-yellow wheels and chassis
GS13	Fordson Power Major Tractor & Plough	Blue with red wheels
GS31	The 'Riviera' Gift Set	Light metallic blue car, red trailer, blue and white boat
GS35	London Passenger Transport Set	Red bus and black taxi

Source: *The Great Book of Corgi 1956-1983*



▲ No 472 Public Address Vehicle. Photo: Vectis.



TAYUMO
CAR PLAY & COLLECTIBLES

CHECK OUT OUR NEWEST RANGE
1:36 PULL BACK, FRONT DOORS OPEN
1:32 LIGHT & SOUND, STEERING FRONT WHEEL & SUSPENSION

TAYUMO
CAR PLAY & COLLECTIBLES

Audi - Cadillac - Dodge - Hummer - Jaguar - Jeep - Land Rover - Maserati - Nissan - Pagani - VW - Volvo



32110021 - Jaguar F-Type - 1:32



32105014 - Range Rover Sport - 1:32



36100010 - Land Rover Defender 110 - 1:36

43 Variations of 1:32

69 Variations of 1:36

Head Office and Main Showroom
Discovery House, 8A Sapper Jordan Rossi Park
Otley Road, Baildon, BD17 7AX
Tel: 01274 594119 - Fax: 01274 531505
E-mail: enquiries@ayrey.co.uk

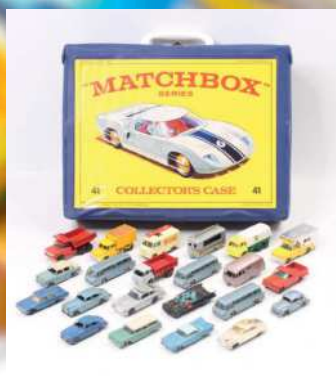
WE ARE - TRADE ONLY
COLLECTORS PLEASE CONTACT
YOUR LOCAL MODEL SUPPLIER

Southern Office and Showroom
Unit 15, Liberty Close, Woolsbridge Ind. Park
Three Legged Cross, Dorset, BH21 6SX
Tel: 01202 828308 - Fax: 01202 829706
E-mail: southsales@ayrey.co.uk

**LACY SCOTT
& KNIGHT**

Chartered Surveyors | Land & Estate Agents | Auctioneers & Valuers

Entries welcome for
our 16th December
**Toys and Collectors
Models auction**



Entries close 20th November

Contact Details: oleggett@lsk.co.uk | 01284 748 625 Click for more information



2022 index

Keep track of articles in previous issues, organised on a yearly basis for easy reference. The listings will track the main subjects of non-regular features together with the subjects or some regulars like *Off the Beaten Track* and *Vintage Dinky of the Month*, but not the contents of *What's New*, *News & Events*, *Price Guide* etc.

ISSUE NO 291 – JANUARY 2022

New Model Spotlight: My kind of Volvos.....	18
New Model Spotlight: G40, G60, GTI, go.....	20
One, Two, Three, Eight	22
Diecast Collector Awards 2022	27
Texaco Scorchers.....	40
Outstanding service.....	43
Corgi Toys Police 'Vigilant' Range Rover at 50.....	45
Diecasts for the white stuff.....	46
Last days on top.....	48
Size Matters part 27.....	54
Smallest old timers ever made.....	58
Lesney Superfast - Collecting by numbers - #18	60
From the Editor's Collection - Dakar Rally dune riders.....	64
Vintage Dinky of the Month - Cadillac Eldorado	66
Diecast Collector 2021 index.....	67
Off the Beaten Track - Rallying successes of the Mercedes 220SE.....	68
The Last Word - Blue not-remembered hills.....	86

ISSUE NO 292 – FEBRUARY 2022

New Model Spotlight: A transport of delight..	20
New Model Spotlight: Quintessentially French style.....	22
New Model Spotlight: Road & track	24

Covered wagons by Dinky Toys – part 1.....	26
First class	32
Istvan Levai	36
Mulhouse masterpiece.....	41
From the Editor's Collection - Adams Drag-star	42
Diecast imitating art	44
The Royal miniatures – Rextoys part 1.....	46
Size Matters part 28.....	52
Rallye Monte Carlo: The best rally in the world	56
Joining the circus.....	62
Lesney Superfast - Collecting by numbers - #19	64
Out & About: NELSAM.....	69
Vintage Dinky of the Month - Aveling Barford 'Centaur' Dump Truck	71
Off the Beaten Track - Winter sports with Solido and Norev	81
The Last Word - Poetic licence	86

ISSUE NO 293 – MARCH 2022

New Model Spotlight: Lightweights.....	18
New Model Spotlight: Powerful pony	20
New Model Spotlight: Powerful pony	21
New from Corgi for 2022.....	22
Remembering Rovers.....	29
Fiat 130 Coupé	35

Peugeot 404	41
French fancy	44
More Royal miniatures – Rextoys part 2.....	46
Tomica buses	52
Rallye Monte Carlo: Entering the modern age	56
Knock on wood.....	62
From the Editor's Collection - Premium Toy Story	63
Lesney Superfast - Collecting by numbers - #20	64
Size Matters part 29.....	66
Vintage Dinky of the Month - Shell-BP Fuel Tanker.....	69
Pulling power.....	71
Off the Beaten Track - Caravan by Jouets Ador	81
The Last Word - Abandoning Ed the Bear ...	86

ISSUE NO 294 – APRIL 2022

New Model Spotlight: Trucks make light work	20
New Model Spotlight: Hiya, little sister	22
New Model Spotlight: Bertone in blue	23
Future models: 2022 Showcase	24
Second Time Around (part 4)	39
Corgi Juniors fire engines.....	46
Size Matters part 30.....	50

INDEX ARCHIVE

The conquest of Daytona.....	52
Lone Star's Ford Transit.....	58
Vintage Dinky of the Month – MGB	63
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #21	66
From the Editor's Collection – I expect you to diecast, Mr Bond	68
Off the Beaten Track – A British Citroën	81
The Last Word – From doubtful wisdom to genius.....	86

ISSUE NO 295 – MAY 2022

New Model Spotlight: Shades of green.....	18
New Model Spotlight: Shades of grey.....	19
New Model Spotlight: Night eyes.....	20
BMW's luxury sports coupé.....	22
Gilles Villeneuve – Flat out all the time.....	28
Austin's luxury post-war saloons.....	32
From the Editor's Collection – Bye-bye, Land Rovers.....	39
1960s British saloons by 'Fun Ho!'......	42
Size Matters part 31.....	46
Matchbox Super GTs.....	50
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Field-Marshal Tractor	59
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #22	66
Off the Beaten Track – Land Rovers by Nacoral of Spain.....	73
The Last Word – A sense of identity	78

ISSUE NO 296 – JUNE 2021

New Model Spotlight: On white rims.....	18
New Model Spotlight: End of the line.....	20
The most beautiful Alfas.....	22
Sentosa Express	28
American muscle in France	30
The best of Berliet.....	32
From the Editor's Collection – Berliet Stradair	34
A very strange pair	36
It's a small world – part 1	38
Batman vs Superman.....	45
From plastic to diecast	46
Alexandr Bistriy	53
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #23	58
Opel Diplomat V8 Coupé	60
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Brinks Armoured Car.....	62
More on the Dinky Herald	72
Off the Beaten Track – 1940s Buick from Timpo.....	73
The Last Word – Positively presidential.....	78

ISSUE NO 297 – JULY 2022

New Model Spotlight: Revvin' 'n' ravin'.....	18
New Model Spotlight: Ocean racin'.....	20
Coming soon from Corgi.....	22
Pre-war Le Mans winners by Ixo	26
The X-files from Weissach.....	32
It's a small world – part 2: The Americans are here.....	38
Land-Rover 80" Series 1 – part 1	45
Play trucks.....	52

Jo Bonnier's last ride.....	58
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #24	60
From the Editor's Collection – Texaco	62
Doodlebug	62
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Vauxhall Victor Estate.....	64
Off the Beaten Track – The Vanguard and the Vulcan	73
The Last Word – What the well-dressed are all wearing this year	78

ISSUE NO 298 – AUGUST 2022

New Model Spotlight: Museum pieces.....	18
New Model Spotlight: On patrol.....	20
Tintoys tanks and armoured cars	22
Corgi Toys Ford Cortina Police Car at 50.....	27
Covered wagons by Dinky Toys – part 2.....	28
Ferrari's early road cars	32
Long live the Griffin.....	38
Land-Rover 80" Series 1 – part 2.....	46
It's a small world – part 3: Widening the search.	52
Off the Beaten Track – Morris saloons by Corgi and Tekno.....	57
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #25	60
From the Editor's Collection – Peugeot 205 GTI.....	62
Jimbo and the Jet-Set	64
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Duple Viceroy 37 Luxury Coach.....	73
The Last Word – As rare as a green bowler hat.. ..	78

ISSUE NO 299 – SEPTEMBER 2022

New Model Spotlight: We've been expecting you.....	18
New Model Spotlight: New buses from EFE Road.....	22
Sponsoring in the eighties	24
CJ's fastest	31
Two new Jensens	32
Peugeot D3/D4 van	36
Time on your hands.....	44
From the Editor's Collection – BMW V12 LMR.....	47
RN Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers ..	48
Bandai airport series	52
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #26	60
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Jones Fleetmaster Crane	64
Off the Beaten Track – Majorette Volkswagen vans	73
The Last Word – The Italian Job(s).....	78

ISSUE NO 300 – OCTOBER 2022

New Model Spotlight: All four	20
New Model Spotlight: Artura!	21
New Model Spotlight: My kind of Citroëns.....	22
When racing cars looked great	24
Happy 25th birthday!	30
RMS Caronia.....	37

Dinky Toys Cosmos 725CM Mobile Crane ..	38
Solido's 1972 Le Mans Matras	40
CorgiMatics	42
HALO: Combat evolved	44
MGB at 60 – part 1.....	48
Corgi Toys GS19 Land Rover, Nipper Aircraft and Trailer at 50.....	55
It's a small world – part 4: Small scale fun	56
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #27	60
From the Editor's Collection – Corgi Toys No 347 Chevrolet Astro I.....	62
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Morris Mini Minor.....	64
Off the Beaten Track – Safir Champion – part 1	73
The Last Word – Uh-oh-seven	78

ISSUE NO 301 – NOVEMBER 2022

New Model Spotlight: Affaire d'amour.....	18
New Model Spotlight: Paying homage	19
New Model Spotlight: Schwarz & Silber	20
New from Corgi	22
New from Oxford.....	24
New releases from Matchbox	27
Baby-Benz is 40	32
A cool customer – revisited	38
Australian limited editions by Matchbox- part 1	42
MGB at 60 – part 2.....	48
Lone Star's fabulous Fodens	54
Land-Rover 80" Series 1 – postscript	58
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #28	60
From the Editor's Collection – Fit for a Princess and a Queen.....	62
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Chevrolet 'El Camino' Pick-up Truck.....	64
Off the Beaten Track – Safir Champion – part 2	73
The Last Word – Ford Capri.....	78

ISSUE NO 302 – DECEMBER 2022

New Model Spotlight: 993 GTs on R&T	18
New Model Spotlight: Blue and green	19
New Model Spotlight: Petite et parfait	20
Born abroad	22
Doug McHard and the Somerville bus	28
Building Britain	32
Some super horseplay.....	38
Five peas in a pod.....	43
Australian limited editions by Matchbox- part 2	46
MG RV8.....	52
World Cup Fever!	56
Lesney Superfast – Collecting by numbers – #29	60
From the Editor's Collection – a MINI GT Christmas.....	62
Vintage Dinky of the Month – Single-decker bus	64
Off the Beaten Track – Carlton Triumphs	73
The Last Word – American UK.....	78



A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PREPOSTEROUS NEW YEAR
 TO ALL MY CUSTOMERS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE
 MANY THANKS TO YOU ALL!
I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU LOT
 FRANK

T: 01244 320761
 E: bhm-uk@talktalk.net
 www.britishheritagemodels.co.uk

 2 Alyn Road,
 Chester, CH2 4DY
 (Plus P&P at cost)



ESVAL: 1958 EDESEL VILLAGER 4-DOOR STATION WAGON, BLUE/WHITE. LTD: 250. **£89.99**



ESVAL: 1958 EDESEL VILLAGER AMBULANCE, HANDBUILT RESIN. LTD: 250. **£89.99**



ESVAL: 1958 EDESEL ROUNDUP 2-DOOR STATION WAGON, RED/WHITE. LTD: 250. **£89.99**



ESVAL: 1939 DELAGE D6-70 CABRIOLET BY LETOURNER, OPEN OR CLOSED, LTD: 250 EACH. **£89.99 EACH**



SILAS: MK 2 TRIUMPH 2000 ESTATE, YELLOW OR 2500S ESTATE. LTD: 72 ONLY EACH. **£79.99 EACH**



GOLDVARG: 1974 BUICK CENTURY NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT. LTD: 333. **£79.99**



GOLDVARG: 1958 FORD CUSTOM 300, NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT. LTD: 250. **£79.99**



BHM MAJESTY: MC 05C 1966 SUPER MINX SERIES IV ESTATE, WHITE OR BLUE. **£89.99 EACH**



MATRIX: 1967 JENSEN NOVA, WHITE OR GREEN. CHRISTMAS CRACKER PRICE!! BE QUICK!! **£49.99 EACH!!!**



GOLDVARG: 1964 MERCURY BREEZEWAY SEDAN, CORAL, OR PEACOCK. HANDBUILT. **£79.99 EACH**



GOLDVARG: 1962 CHEVROLET IMPALA SEDAN, RED. YULE GET A GREAT DEAL ON THIS ONE!! BE QUICK!! **£49.99!!**



MATRIX: 1948 TALBOT LAGO OPEN CABRIOLET, BLUE/WHITE. CHRISTMAS CRACKER PRICE!! BE QUICK!! **£49.99!!**

Andrew Clark Models
 Est. 1981  **Collectors Toys**

Email: andrew@andrewclarkmodels.com
 Or post list to: Andrew Clark Models,
 Unit 1, Toller Court, Shortbank Road,
 Skipton, North Yorkshire. BD23 2HG

WANTED NOW!

All Diecast, Tinplate, Toys and Trains Top prices paid for;

Dinky, Corgi, Matchbox, Spot-On, Tinplate Toy,
 All Trains, Planes, Britains, Scalextric, White Metal
 Models, Minichamps, Quality 1/18 scale models,
 Plastic Kits (Airfix etc...), Modern Collectibles.

- Anything Considered
- Will collect and pay on the day
- Will pay in a method to suit you
- Large collections a speciality, established 1981
- Many auction prices beaten

Call Andrew Today on 07753 804232 (Best Number) or 01756 793354



Always a brilliant selection of Dinky, Corgi,
 Matchbox, Tinplate Toys, White Metal Models etc...
 With new stock everyweek on our superb website!

Check out andrewclarkmodels.com

Also listing on ebay every week
 Username: andrewclarkmodels2

Superfast 1969-1982

Rick Wilson charts the evolution of the Matchbox Superfast range during the Lesney years, from 1969 to 1982.

No.
30



Moving onto number 30 brings us to two-fifths distance in the 75-release series. A popular Regular Wheels casting got the ball rolling once refitted with Superfast wheels, as well as a snazzy new paint job, then Lesney switched to one of its most recognisable Superfast releases in the shape of a fantasy beach buggy. A real change of tack then ushered in a swamp craft, before the number 30 line went back to a commercial road vehicle.

8-WHEEL CRANE

Catalogue: 1970

Box Styles: G

Complete with a new colour scheme to announce the Superfast wheels update for the 1970 catalogue, 8-Wheel Crane was yet another popular Regular Wheels release that was only in the Superfast range for a very short period of time.



Now with a splendid bright red cab and chassis (it was green) and a gold crane (previously a reddish-orange) it still didn't have a window unit, but it does look superb. As with so many of these short-term Superfasts, especially one with such play value, these are hard to come by in mint condition today – even more so if you're after a box as well.

BEACH BUGGY

Catalogue: 1971-76

Box Styles: H

The cute looks and amazing paint job of this little beauty turned many a young head in the day, and it's still a crowd pleaser today. It didn't replicate anything real but it certainly looked right so it was a very credible model. The rear engine clearly has hints of VW Beetle about it so, as most of the real buggies

◀ Early version of Artic Truck (top) with modified casting featuring "LEYLAND" just under the windscreen (bottom).



▲ 8-Wheel Crane, Beach Buggy, Swamp Rat and Artic Truck with their initial release boxes.



▲ At the rear; US-issue blister pack, two slight variations of the Beach Buggy box (on top of the later version of the Swamp Rat box), and the 1988 re-imagining of Swamp Rat in the Commando series. In the foreground; three later Beach Buggy variants (left), Regular Wheels version of 8-Wheel Crane (centre), and three variations of Artic Truck – standard with Leyland cast into cab (right, front), red-cabbed version (right, middle), and later post-Lesney release with modified tipper body casting to facilitate printing (right, rear).



▲ Some variations of Beach Buggy. From top to bottom – very earliest with white interior and short exhausts; with orangey-yellow interior and short exhausts; with longer exhausts (bottom two). Note also the differing shades in main colour and the variance to the splatter application.

around at the time were Beetle-based, it's easy to see why. Painted in a fabulous metallic deep-pink with random yellow paint spatter, ensuring no two models look alike, Beach Buggy really stood out. The very first releases had a white plastic interior and fuel tanks and it commands a high price in excellent to mint condition today. Earlier versions also had less pronounced exhausts (these lasted considerably longer than the white interiors and tanks though, so are easy enough to find). The casting was reworked for No 13 Baja Buggy and this was then subsequently reworked for No 47 Beach Hopper – get all three together and the family resemblance is very clear to see at the front.

SWAMP RAT

Catalogue: 1977-80

Box Styles: K, L

Swamp Rat is a flat-bottomed, propeller-driven

vessel of the type used in the Florida Everglades, but in military guise. It has a tan plastic hull with 'Swamp Rats' stickers on each side, and runs on four wheels that are concealed in the base. The nicely-detailed deck is painted olive green, and features planking and a coiled rope as cast in details. There are two operating features – the rear propeller can spin and the plastic, machine-gunning soldier can be rotated.

Interestingly, the propeller and radial engine were stock parts from the 'Skybusters' aeroplane range. Swamp Rat was a fairly short-lived model with no real variations during its standard production run, but did find a new lease of life and get revamped for the 1988 'Commando' series, as Swamp Boat, for the Strike Team.

ARTIC TRUCK

Catalogue: 1981-82

Box Styles: L

The second model to be called Articulated Truck, this was a rather stubby version of a Leyland T45 semi-tractor with an open trailer. The cab was in metallic blue with a white grille and, interestingly, red windows – the trailer was in silver grey. Some versions can be found with red cab units, but this is an easy one to fake by simply swapping over the cab from No 14 Petrol Tanker.

Both parts of the casting were modified during its production run – early versions of the cab had no badging, while later issues had "LEYLAND" embossed under the windscreen. Later examples of the trailer had blank panels cast on the sides to facilitate printing. **DC**

Desert Island Diecasts

Imagine you're stranded on a remote island and had only taken a handful of your collection favourites on that fateful trip, which five would you want it to be? Long time *Diecast Collector* contributor, **David Wright**, is this month's castaway.

I'm hoping both the editor and readers will give me some licence on the word "diecasts", as my collection contains not only diecast, but resin, white metal and tinplate, so here goes!

Finding a Dinky Toys No 470 Austin van in a pile of toys given to my office to raise money for disadvantaged children for Christmas, some 50 years ago, brought back many memories, so I bought it, stripped it and repainted it. After working my way through collections of both Matchbox Lesney models and selected Dinky Toys, I found my main interest was in sports cars, so then all materials, and toys or accurate models were all fair game. I hope readers find this eclectic selection of interest, as they all represent either an important person in my life, a good friend, or even a significant event.

SILAS MODELS JENSEN C-V8 MK III

Having joined the ranks of the classic car movement, and specifically the Jensen Owners Club, I was amazed to find no model of my beloved C-V8 existed, apart from a small pewter gift item. After much discussion with Frederic Cros, he came to the Revival and took photos of my car. We corresponded, and eventually, it arrived. There is hardly a straight edge on it anywhere, and Silas has replicated all the details, including the key operated flap at the front which unlocks the bonnet. This car will be with me for the rest of my life, or as long as I'm able to drive it.

EQUIPE TRON NUFFIELD FIRE ENGINE

It amazed me to find that a French resin handbuilt company should go to the trouble of making this model, and also placing a monochrome picture of the real thing in the box to prove its authenticity. It is just so accurate, based on a Series II Morris Minor, with cut away welded in doors, together with extinguishers, ladder and sheets. It is so much better than the Corgi Classic Minor 1000 pick up version.



▲ Silas Models Jensen C-V8 Mk III.

▶ Equipe Tron Nuffield Fire Engine.



It reminds me of all that is good about the small home family based model makers.

JPS COLLECTION ALLARD P1 MONTE CARLO

French collectors are very loyal to both the Rallye Monte Carlo and the Le Mans 24 Hours race. I lived my early life in south London, and was always in awe of a man who built cars in a workshop in Clapham, also south London, and then entered one of his cars



in the Rallye Monte Carlo, and won it driving that very car. What a hero! Sadly, the car is probably not popular enough to gain the attention of the big manufacturer, so it was left to the French maker JPS to create this stunning model of the P1, complete with rally plaques. It's a symbol of what one man can achieve.

BKL FIAT PANTECHNICON

My friend of some 45 years, John Wakley, whose knowledge of diecasts was impenetrable, sadly passed away in March 2020. He'd asked me if I would like one or two of his collection before it was sold. I chose this diminutive 1/76 scale model, because it not only reminds me of John, but also of its makers Barry Lester and Adrian Swain, the latter living in Poole when I visited him for my first book on White Metal modelling in 2009.

Around 50 were made to promote a toyfair in Bournemouth in 1975, the details of which are shown on the photo-etched panel. I wrote about this in an article in Diecast Collector some time ago, and no-one challenged me when I claimed this was the first of many models promoting toyfairs.

BTS/TRANSPORT MODELLING BOOKS PARAMOUNT ROADSTER

Yes the maker is a mouthful! When you write a book about cars, there are one or two that bug you. The idea of a lovely, heavy and curvy 1950s British sporting car might be running on a Ford 100E sidevalve engine, when it was intended for an Alvis 3 litre, can stick in your mind. When you also know that it was built in Swadlingcote and Leighton Buzzard, and there were only 70 ever manufactured, and yet no model had ever been made, I had to remedy that! I used a TW Models Healey Westland kit, altered it, then passed it to my friend Barry Smith of BTS Mouldings in Hastings. He created the chrome plated parts, and also made it possible to assemble from a kit, and photo-etched parts were created in Hong Kong. Eighteen resin casts were taken from the master, and all have now been sold, and I'm a happy man to have created my own model. This one fully qualifies for a place on the Island, as it reminds me of Barry and his late wife Josefine.

I would like to thank and celebrate all the

- 1 BKL Fiat Pantehnicon.
- 2 BTS/Transport Modelling Books Paramount Roadster.
- ▶ JPS Collection Allard P1 Monte Carlo.



memories I have been given through the lives of those who contributed to my three books on Resin and White Metal Modelling, and also British Sporting Cars, and copies are still available at – www.transportmodellingbooks.co.uk. **DC**

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP FIVE DESERT ISLAND DIECASTS?

Fancy having some fun and sharing your choices? Just email the editor photos of your five choices, together with about 125-150 words on each, including your reasons for choosing, to rick.wilson@warnersgroup.co.uk.





◀ Dinky Toys Morris 1100 (No 140) in pale blue with its box.

Morris 1100

DTCA Chairman, Michael Driver, picks another vintage favourite by Dinky.

After the success of the BMC Mini Austin and Morris cars, the company developed and introduced the Morris 1100, with a transverse engine and a new type of suspension. Being a bigger car than the Mini, it was fitted with four doors, which gave better access for the rear passengers. Back in the 1960s, I knew a fellow student who had a Morris 1100 and he had modified the engine, which then produced a better performance and a very fast car.

The Dinky Toys Morris 1100 (No 140) arrived in February 1963, and was seen in the back page colour advert of that month's *Meccano Magazine*. This states that "It's NEW! NEW! NEW!" and "There's a transverse engine under the bonnet". In the Dinky Toys News, the Toyman says "One of the outstanding features of the Morris 1100 is the transverse B.M.C. engine, and this has been incorporated in the Dinky Toys miniature. The Dinky Toys owner can gain access to the engine by lifting up the bonnet of this natty little car and, without question, this is a toy which is going to figure in collections all over the globe". He also states that "they worked on its production as a miniature in the closest liaison with the Morris Organisation. Their full co-operation has enabled us to create a perfect replica – the first Dinky Toy to be built to a new, larger scale of 1:42".

The model is in pale blue with a red plastic interior. It has all the Dinky Toys features, which include 'Prestomatic' steering, four-wheel suspension, windows, seats and a white plastic steering wheel. The headlights, bumper and radiator are in silver and the rear lights are painted in red. The detailed engine is finished in silver and there are spun wheels with

▶ Dinky Toys Morris 1100 (No 140) Caramel coloured South African version. Photo: Vectis Auctions



▲ Dinky Toys Morris 1100 (No 140) with open bonnet to show the detailed engine.



▲ February 1963 *Meccano Magazine* advert, part image.

FURTHER INFO

The larger scale Dinky Toys cars with additional features are now very collectable and are occasionally shown in in the DTCA Journal with pictures. If you would like to find out more details or join, then visit the website at www.dtcawebsite.com

tyres. They were sold in illustrated yellow and red card end flap boxes, before deletion in 1969.

Again, during the 1960s, the Morris 1100 was one of the Dinky Toys castings sent to South Africa for assembly. The importer, Arthur E Harris, produced these Dinky Toys out there due to the import restrictions on luxury goods and these therefore avoided that tax. Many of these Dinky Toys were finished in different colours and the Morris 1100 was available in caramel, light brown or the light blue of the English model, and they all had red plastic interiors. They were sold in the yellow and red illustrated card end flap boxes with descriptions in English and Afrikaans.

The 'real' Morris 1100 was launched in 1962 and was the best-selling car in Britain from 1963 to 1966. It had a four-cylinder, 1,098 cc engine, which provided a cruising speed of 70 mph. The all-round self-levelling suspension system was known as 'Hydrolastic' and was developed by Alex Moulton, which provided a much smoother ride. There were later versions as the Austin 1100, MG 1100, Vanden Plas Princess 1100, Riley Kestrel and Wolseley 1100, and also a two-door model. The replacement for the 1100 in 1971 was the Morris Marina. **DC**

WANTED!

Andrew of Miniature Autoworld is looking for **all makes and scales of:**

- Modern & Vintage Diecast Models
 - White Metal & Resin Models
 - White Metal, Resin & Plastic Kits
 - Modern & Vintage Toy Soldiers
- Large Collections - Small Collections
- Surplus Stock

Selling couldn't be easier!

We will travel **anywhere** in the UK & Ireland!

We can make payment by your preferred method!

Simply phone Andrew direct, anytime:
01271 864061 or 07515 743152

Visit the website:

WWW.MINIATURE-AUTOWORLD.CO.UK

Email us:

miniature-autoworld@outlook.com

Or post details to:

Andrew Sutton, Miniature Autoworld,
Green Ridge, West Down, Ilfracombe,
Devon, EX34 8NF

SALE
up to **30% off**
CORGI

ROXLEY MODELS

SURREY'S FRIENDLY SHOP FOR ALL YOUR MODELLING NEEDS



MODEL SCENERY • AIRFIX • MODEL RAILWAY • SCALEXTRIC • PAINTS & GLUES

4 Beckley Parade, Great Bookham, Surrey, KT23 4RQ

01372 452 976 www.roxleymodels.co.uk

@RoxleyModels enquiries@roxleymodels.co.uk



Russell Martin - Over 30 years experience in the model trade!

WANTED: Diecast, White Metal, Buses, Airplanes, 1/18th Scale, 1/43rd Scale, Formula 1, Modern Rally, Historic Rally
ANYTHING CONSIDERED COLLECTION AVAILABLE



For more information please contact:-

Tel: 023 9226 2446 Mobile: 07957 823507

Email: russell@rmtoys.co.uk

Or post list to:-

RM Toys Ltd, 31 Aston Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire, PO7 7XQ

SPA CROFT MODELS
Beautiful Models for the Discerning Collector
Our Reputation is Your Guarantee
www.spacraftmodels.co.uk
98, High Street, Tibshelf, Derby, DE55 5NU
Tel: 01773 872780 Email: spacraft@aol.com

FREE P&P in UK **FREE P&P in UK**

Matrix Models 1964 Mercury
Park Lane Breezeway
Peacock Blue
Price £84.99

Matrix Models 1948 Austin 1300 Mk.III
Harvest Gold
Price £89
COMING SOON

Matrix 1966 Jaguar S-type Frua
Blue Metallic or Dark Green
Price £96
COMING SOON

Goldvarg Models 1948 Buick Roadmaster Coupé
Allendale Green
Price £89
COMING SOON

Goldvarg 1949 Oldsmobile 88 Station Wagon
Nightshade Blue or Alpine Green
Price £89
COMING SOON

Goldvarg Models 1968 Buick Electra
Autumn Bronze
Price £79
COMING SOON

Goldvarg 1953 Buick Station Wagon
Mandarin Red or Terrace Green
Price £89.99
COMING SOON

Goldvarg Models 1960 Pontiac Safari
Stardust Yellow & Fairway Green or Skymist Blue
Price £79
COMING SOON

Matrix 1965 Mini de Ville
Sir Paul McCartney's Mini
Price £89.99
COMING SOON

Matrix Models 1961 Mercury Monterey
Green/White
Price £84.99
COMING SOON

Matrix Models 1962 Ford Galaxie
Skymist Blue/White Chestnut Poly
Price £84.99
COMING SOON

GLM 1960 Imperial Custom Southampton
Price £99
COMING SOON

1961 Imperial LeBaron
Price £99
COMING SOON

GLM 1976 Buick Electra 225
Also in Boston Red Met. and Black
Price £99
COMING SOON

Prices subject to exchange rate fluctuations, freight charges and import duty
Expected Nov. 2022
Call/email me for confirmation

Items marked "Coming Soon" are available to pre-order. Give me a call/email.
Limited Stock of Brooklins & Lansdownes available. Call/email me for details of these and other models
Orders before 2pm, Mon-Fri are sent out same day, 1st Class Signed For Post Free in UK

NOW ON SALE!

Helping collectors and dealers
value their collection since 1983

**18th
EDITION**



Now in its 18th edition, **Ramsay's British Diecast Model Toys Catalogue** is brought to you by a team of experts who have scoured thousands of auction results over the past two years to ensure you have all the updated market value prices.

With over 19,000 listings, this catalogue remains the benchmark for all price guides, and is a must from anyone collecting diecast models.

Order today by either calling **01778 392006**
or visiting **ccofgb.uk/ramsays18**

AUCTION NEWS

MASSIVE COLLECTION GOES ON SALE AT EXCALIBUR AUCTIONS

EXCALIBUR Auctions has just held the first part of a sale of the largest collection of individual automobiles in 1/43 scale that charts the history of motor cars and motor racing around the world. The private collection, titled The Old Garage Model Automobile Collection (TOGMAC), comprises over 6,500 cars and more than 600 different makes of car. It has been amassed over 50 years and painstakingly documented and photographed as a virtual museum online at www.togmac.com by a passionate private collector. The collection features rare and unusual examples, alongside more well-known models and offers collectors and enthusiasts a rare opportunity to obtain a unique piece of motoring history.

Part 1 featured plenty of variety, from vintage Corgis and Dinkys, right up to modern resincasts by AutoCult. There was much of interest inbetween too, of course, with over 500 lots auctioned. The first part of the sale took place at Excalibur Auctions on Saturday

November 5, 2022, and part 2 comes up on 14th January 2023. With a conservative estimate of £150,000 for the whole collection, global interest expert, Jonathan

Torode, expects these sought-after models to far exceed that.

To find out more about the sales, and how to bid, go to Excalibur's website at www.excaliburauctions.com, or call on 020 3633 0913. ■



GERRY ANDERSON DINKYS COMING OUT OF THE SHADOWS



THE great range of Gerry Anderson TV show replicas that were produced by Dinky Toys have been gradually increasing in value for some time now. Prices for No 100 FAB 1, No 101 Thunderbird 2 & 4 and No 102 Joe's Car from Joe 90 are prime examples of this. But recently, the two models from "UFO" have been creeping up more in value as well. In its 2nd November sale, Vectis sold one of each of these for very tidy sums indeed.

No 351 Interceptor was described as having a metallic green body, gold rear thrusters, light blue tinted windscreen, red plastic legs, chrome firing mechanism, black launcher with white & orange missile. Near mint on excellent plus inner pictorial stand with correct large folded instruction leaflet, in good plus to excellent outer carded picture box, it is a lovely bright example of the earlier cardboard box-packed issue that is harder to find.

No 353 SHADO 2 Mobile is finished in the usual drab green, featuring large brown plastic rollers with grey tracks, off-white interior, and yellow & red missile. Near mint in excellent plus yellow and red carded picture box with inner packing piece and correct large instruction leaflet, it was described as being an outstanding example.

The prices? Both stunning examples of these popular models sold well – for an astonishing £340 and £440 respectively. ■

▲ Dinky Toys No 351 "UFO" SHADO Interceptor; Dinky Toys No 353 "UFO" SHADO 2 Mobile.

CORGI'S ICE CREAM SURPRISE



DURING Lacy Scott & Knight's Toys & Models Sale, in October, one of the new Corgi Model Club re-issues of No 474 Wall's Ice Cream Van with Musical Chimes was up for bids – it was going to be very interesting to see what it went for, compared to the originals. It's safe to say that this fabulous, faithful recreation is just as appealing today, closing at £150 plus buyer's premium.

Mint originals can regularly realise hammer prices between £250 and £300, with the earlier, non-musical No 447 going for even more than that if everything, including the figures, is in top order.

Even so, to see one of these marvellous recreations selling for many times its original price, when the second production run only sold out recently, is quite something. It just goes to show what a fantastic job the Corgi Model Club is doing.

Lacy Scott & Knight's next Toys & Models Sale takes place on 16th December. See www.lskauctioncentre.co.uk for more information. ■

PriceGuide

54
AUCTION
PRICES
LISTED



Welcome to our regular **Price Guide** section where we highlight a variety of collectables that have been sold through auction houses during recent months.

ON SALE NOW! Ramsay's British Diecast Catalogue 18th Edition
Order your copy by calling 01778 392006 or visit www.ccofgb.uk/ramseys18



▲ **Dinky Toys No 642 Pressure Refueller**, RAF blue with 'French' roundel and blue driver. Very good in good box. **£55, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Corgi Toys 1/18 scale No 190 J.P.S. Lotus Formula 1**, John Player Special black with gold highlighting livery with take-off wheels. Very good to mint in good box, with inner packing and spanner in sealed bag. **£40, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Corgi Toys 1/18 scale No 191 Texaco-Marlboro McLaren M23 F1**, Texaco-Marlboro red & white livery with take-off wheels. Very good to mint in good box, with inner packing and spanner in sealed bag. **£40, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Matchbox 75 "Two packs" TP-21 Mercedes Truck and Trailer**, red with yellow plastic tonneau, Transcontinental Haulage co. stickers. Mint on near mint backing card and blister pack. **£30, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Matchbox Superfast No 75 Ferrari Berlinetta**, bright red with painted grille, off-white interior, unpainted base, with clear glass. Very good in excellent box. **£45, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Matchbox Series No 34 Volkswagen Camper**, silver body with low roof, amber glazing, black plastic wheels. Very good to mint in excellent box. **£45, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Matchbox Superfast No 58 DAF Girder Truck**, off-white with red plastic base, red plastic girders, red plastic grille, green glazing and plastic wheels. Very good to mint in mint box. **£80, Wallis & Wallis, September.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 407 Ford Transit Mk1 - Hertz**, yellow livery with silver base. Very good in good box. **£35, British Toy Auctions, October.**



▲ **Lone Star Tuf-Tots countertop trade box**, including 24 models comprising Mercedes, Dodge Dart, Citroen, Caravan, Corvette, and Dodge Dart Convertible. All models as new in their open top card boxes, in good outer trade pack. **£140, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Husky No 3005 Holiday Time Gift Set**, comprising eight various vehicles, housed in the original card and plastic display packaging. All models mint in very good outer packaging. **£300, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 1138 Car Transporter with Ford Tilt Cab H series tractor unit and trailer**, red and blue body with cast wirework hubs. Excellent to near mint in very good original sliding tray box with protective packing piece. **£110, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 805 Hardy Boys Rolls Royce Silver Ghost**, red, yellow and blue, with figures. Excellent in good to very good original blue and yellow window box. **£160, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 315 Simca 1000 Competition Model**, chrome body with red interior and blue, red and white racing stripe, with spun hubs, RN #8. Very near mint in very good to excellent original blue & yellow card box. **£75, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 216 Austin A40 saloon**, blue body with dark blue roof and silver trim, flat spun hubs. Very near mint in excellent original blue & yellow all card box. **£95, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 511 Chipperfields Performing Poodles Gift Set**, Chevrolet Impala delivery van, with poodles, Mary Chipperfield figure and green play base. Near mint in very near mint window display blue & yellow card box. **£200, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 313 Ford Cortina**, bronze complete with Graham Hill figure. Near mint in excellent original and much more difficult to find "Whizzwhells" misspelt window style box. **£90, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Corgi Toys Gift Set No 38 Mini 1000 camping set, Cream Mini 1000 with plastic tent, barbecue, and two figures. Mint in very near mint original window box. **£200, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Corgi Toys Gift Set 36 Tarzan, Jungle Land Rover with animal trailer, dinghy on trailer, tree house, Tarzan, Jayne, Boy and Cheetah, hunter figure, lion, elephant, crocodile & snake, vines plus 3-D jungle card panorama. Near mint in excellent packaging. **£520, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Corgi Model Club Corgi Toys No 474 Walls Ice cream delivery van reissue, blue and cream. Mint in mint box with certificate. **£150, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Dinky Toys pre-war No 22B closed sports coupe, yellow and green body with gold washed coloured wheels, tinplate radiator with Hornby series cast to underside. Good, unboxed. **£260, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Dinky Toys No 968 BBC TV roving eye vehicle, dark green body, grey detailing, with cameraman figure and plastic aerial attachment. Very good to excellent in near mint box. **£110, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Dinky Toys No 359 "Space 1999" Eagle Transporter, green, white and red, including side and rear thrusters, complete with unapplied decal sheet. Near mint to mint in near mint to mint box, with unpunched header card. **£210, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Dinky Toys pre-war No 44 AA hut motorcycle patrol and guides gift set, comprising tin plate hut, motorcycle and sidecar and two guides. Very good in good to very good box, with 'London', 'Glasgow', and 'Liverpool' direction signs. **£210, Lacy Scott & Knight, October.**



▲Dinky Dublo No 073 Land Rover and Horse Trailer, green Land Rover with black knobby black plastic wheels and silver trim, plus orange trailer with black plastic knobby wheels and black ramp, but missing horse. Near mint to mint in good red and yellow carded picture box. **£30, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Corgi Toys No 238 Jaguar Mark X, sea green body with red interior and spun hubs, luggage in trunk. Excellent to near mint in very good original all-card blue and yellow picture box. **£140, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Matchbox No K-1 King Size 8-wheel Tipper Truck "Hoveringham", red cab and chassis with orange tipper body. Mint in very good original all-card blue and yellow picture box. **£45, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Matchbox No K-5 King Size Foden Truck, yellow with bare metal hubs. Mint in excellent original all-card blue and yellow picture box. **£40, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Matchbox No K-6 King Size Allis-Chalmers Earth Remover, orange with red engine detail. Mint in very good original all-card blue and yellow picture box. **£40, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Matchbox No K-13 King Size Ready Mix Concrete Truck, orange with red hubs. Near mint in good original all-card blue and yellow picture box. **£40, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Budgie Toys No 254 Merryweather Turn Table Ladder Fire Escape, red with silver-grey ladder. Near mint in good to very good picture box with promotional colour leaflet. **£50, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Budgie Toys No 258 Daimler Ambulance, cream body over red base. Near mint in very good plus picture box. **£50, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Budgie Toys No 242 Euclid Tipper Truck, orange body and base, red cab. Excellent in good picture. box with promotional colour leaflet **£30, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Budgie Toys No 292 'OO' scale Bulk Milk Tanker, cream tan on blue chassis and cab, with windows. Excellent plus to near mint in excellent plus picture box. **£50, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Budgie Toys No 206 Leyland Hippo Coal Truck, green cab and chassis with fawn truck. Near mint in excellent picture box. **£50, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Budgie Toys No 288 'OO' scale Bulk Flour Tanker, red and cream, with windows. Excellent plus in very good plus picture box, with promotional colour leaflet. **£50, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Dinky Toys No 225 Lotus F1 Racing Car, red body, blue engine, white base, with driver figure. Excellent in good box with promotional leaflet. **£28, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲Dinky Toys No 263 Superior Criterion Ambulance, white body, black base, with driver and attendant figure, with patient on stretcher. Excellent in excellent box. **£70, British Toy Auctions, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 165 Ford Capri**, metallic aqua, yellow interior, silver and chrome trim, Speedwheels. Near mint in good to good plus carded picture box. **£300, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Corgi Toys No 1130 Bedford TK Horse Transporter "Chipperfields Circus"**, red cab, lemon interior, silver trim, spun hubs, 2x black plastic mirrors with two-tone trailer - red, blue plastic upper, spun hubs, 6x grey horses still in original packaging. Excellent on excellent plus carded tray in good blue and yellow carded picture box with correct inner packing piece. **£100, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 100 "Thunderbirds" Lady Penelope's FAB1**, pink, including roof slides, gold interior with Lady Penelope & Parker figures, chrome pointed hubs, reproduction missile & harpoons. Good plus in nice reproduction bubble pack. **£110, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 102 "Joe 90" Joe's Car**, metallic aqua, white, chrome engine with red thruster, spun hubs, battery-operated features. Excellent plus on excellent pictorial stand in fair to good outer box. **£240, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 351 "UFO" SHADO Interceptor**, metallic green body, gold rear thrusters, light blue tinted windscreen, red plastic legs, chrome firing mechanism, black launcher with white & orange missile. Near mint on excellent plus inner pictorial stand with correct large folded instruction leaflet, in good plus to excellent outer carded picture box. **£340, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 353 "UFO" SHADO 2 Mobile**, drab green, large brown plastic rollers with grey tracks, off-white interior, with yellow & red missile. Near mint in excellent plus yellow and red carded picture box with inner packing piece and correct large instruction leaflet. **£440, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 109 "The Secret Service" Gabriel Ford Model T**, black and yellow, including spoked wheels, driver figure, chrome radiator & headlights. Excellent on excellent plus inner pictorial stand in excellent carded picture box with inner packing piece. **£80, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 350 "The Enchanted House" Tiny's Mini Moke**, orange, white & yellow plastic striped canopy, silver trim, cast hubs, with Tiny figure. Excellent on near mint inner pictorial stand, with packing ring, in near mint outer carded picture box. **£120, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 620 Berliet Missile Launcher**, drab greenish/grey including hubs, black plastic launcher with white & red missile, metal tow-hook, thick silver trim to front. Excellent plus in fair yellow and red carded picture box. **£140, Vectis, November.**



▲ **French Dinky Toys No 883 Char AMX Bridge Layer**, drab green, including rollers, with grey rubber tracks, plastic bridge, with instruction leaflet. Excellent plus in excellent yellow, red and blue lift off lid box with detailed picture. **£70, Vectis, November.**



▲ **French Dinky Toys No 1406 Renault Sinpar 4x4 "Michel Tanguy"**, military green with red, white and blue finish, black interior, concave hubs, with metal aerial and 2x correct figures. Excellent on good plus inner pictorial stand in fair to good outer yellow and red carded box with detailed picture. **£140, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 450 Bedford TK "Castrol" Box Van**, metallic green cab and back, red interior and plastic hubs, white opening side and rear doors. Excellent plus in excellent yellow and red lift off lid box with detailed picture. **£140, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys No 936 Leyland 8-wheeled Chassis**, red, including plastic hubs, silver chassis, driver figure, 3x 5-ton weights. Good plus in good plus yellow and red lift off lid box with detailed picture. **£80, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Dinky Toys Farm Gear Gift Set**, red 27a Massey Harris Tractor, dark tan and red 27b Harvest Trailer, red and silver 27c Massey Harris Manure Spreader, green and dark tan 27g Motocart, red and yellow 27h Disc Harrow. Good plus to excellent plus in fair blue and white striped lift off lid box, with correct inner packing piece. **£170, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Corgi Toys 2096/8400 "St Michael" Grand Prix Racing Set**, white LWB Land Rover "Formula 1 Racing Team", green Fiat X/19 Sports Car, black "Texaco" Lotus Racing Car "Texaco", Hesketh-Ford, Elf Tyrrell and trailer. Near mint to mint, in near mint inner plastic tray, good plus carded base with diorama, in fair to good box. **£130, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Corgi Toys Chipperfield Circus GS23 Gift Set (1st Issue)**, red and blue Smiths Karrier Mobile Booking Office, red and blue Scammell 6-wheeled Crane Truck, 2x Animal Cage Trailers, red and blue Land Rover and trailer with light grey plastic elephant cage, plus 2x Lions, 2x Polar Bears, with unapplied decal sheet. Excellent in good plus inner polystyrene tray with fair to good blue and yellow lift off lid box with detailed picture. **£360, Vectis, November.**



▲ **Corgi Toys Major No 1126 Ecurie Ecosse Racing Car Transporter**, blue body, pale yellow interior, mid-yellow side lettering, silver trim, spun hubs. Excellent plus in good to good plus blue and yellow lift off lid box with detailed picture. **£160, Vectis, November.**



ON SALE NOW THE
Toy Collectors Price Guide 2023
Call 01778 392480

McLAREN MODELS

PO Box 21762, Larbert, Stirlingshire, Scotland FK1 9GG

Tel: 07483 260915 Email: BMclcars@aol.com

Scotland's largest diecast source since 1983



AUTOWORLD - 134 - 1:18 - £109
1957 Chevy Bel Air Convertible, Black, James Bond
'Dr No'



CULT - CML032-1 - 1:18 - £109
1978 Aston Martin V8, Met Blue (UK RRP £162)



TECNOMODEL - TM18-182B - 1:18 - £215
Lotus 21 French GP, Jim Clark (UK RRP £259.99)



CULT - CML101-3 - 1:18 - £169
1985 Rover 3500 Vitesse, Silver
(UK RRP £192.99)



ROAD KING - 180144
- 1:18 - £175
1976 Kenworth K100 Cab,
Blue/Grey



AUTO WORLD 298 - 1:18 £99
1979 Dodge Warlock Pickup



FIRST GEAR 50-3440 - 1:50 £99
Peterbilt 367 Century Wrecker

Website Open 24hrs or Phone 07483 260915 : Mon-Sat 10am-4pm

Worldwide Mail Order Available - Postage Extra, Details on our website

www.mclaren-models.com



MonkBar
Model Shop
Established 1963

2 Goodramgate
York YO1 7LQ
01904 659423

Model Railways - Diecast Planes & Vehicles
Plastic Kits & Figures - Scalextric - Jigsaws



Visit us in York

Find us by Monk Bar
Only 2 minutes from York Minster
Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

www.monkbarmodelshop.co.uk

EDINBURGH VINTAGE TOYS

www.edinburghvintagetoys.co.uk

I BUY and SELL quality Dinky, Corgi, Matchbox, Hornby Dublo and modern diecast (all conditions considered). Top cash prices paid. If you want to ADD to or SELL your COLLECTION please call me or just send me an email.

Tel: 01506 793677 Mob: 07851 979667

Email: davidkidd20@live.co.uk

www.j-jwebbtoyfairs.com

J&J FAIRS

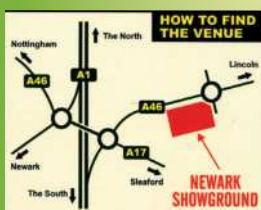
DON'T MISS THE ANNUAL EAST MIDLANDS (NEWARK) TOY & TRAIN COLLECTOR'S FAIR

to be held in THE LADY EASTWOOD CENTRE,
NEWARK & NOTTS SHOWGROUND, WINTHORPE, NEWARK,
NOTTS NG24 2NY (on the junction of A1/A46 towards Lincoln)

START OFF YOUR YEAR BY VISITING US ON

NEW YEAR'S DAY
SUNDAY 1st JANUARY 2023

"Always an exciting date on the toy collecting calendar. This very large fair boasts an excellent selection of old and new toys, trains, models, collectables and much, much more. Held in The Lady Eastwood Centre which is well lit and spacious with indoor catering and masses of free parking."



10am - 2.00pm

ADMISSION:

Adults £5.00

Seniors £4.50

Accompanied

children (under

15) Free

STALLHOLDERS:

Enter from 6.30am. Tables priced at £40 per 6ft

Approx 200 tables
Bookings now being taken!

For more information about this Toy Fair, please contact
Lorraine on 01522 880383 or jandjfairs@virginmedia.com

RAY HEARD TRAIN & TOY FAIRS

NEWTON ABBOT
SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER

Newton Abbot Racecourse,

Devon, TQ12 3AF

(follow the brown racecourse direction signs)

- Admission: £3
- Times: 10am to 3.00pm
- Free car parking
- Refreshments available
- 160 tables
- 60+ traders
- Early Bird entry from 8.30am

FUTURE CONFIRMED DATES:
12TH MARCH 2023, 11TH JUNE 2023

For more information please contact
Ray Heard on **01823 480097**

EVENTS

TOYFAIR TIMES

FAIRS

3 DECEMBER

- Maidstone, Mike Spencer, 01622 298159 or 01732 840787

4 DECEMBER

- Polegate, Eastbourne Historic Vehicle Club, www.ehvc.biz
- Kempton, RM Toys, 023 9238 1529 or 07957 823507
- Shepton Mallet, Bulldog Fairs, 01373 452857 or 07917 125641

8 DECEMBER

- Theydon Bois, Joe Lock, 07866 641215

10 DECEMBER

- Gateshead, Jim Corr, 07504 035955

- Hawkinge, SRP Toy Fairs, 07739 998012

11 DECEMBER

- Stafford, BP Fairs, 01604 846688 or 07966 527177
- Newton Abbot, Ray Heard, 01823 480097

17 DECEMBER

- Herne Bay, SRP Toy Fairs, 07739 998012

18 DECEMBER

- Coventry, BP Fairs, 01604 846688 or 07966 527177

27 DECEMBER

- Birmingham, BP Fairs, 01604 846688 or 07966 527177
- Llandudno, Llandudno Toy & Train Fair, 01492 517004

28 DECEMBER

- Rayleigh, SRP Toy Fairs, 07739 998012

29 DECEMBER

- Ditton, SRP Toy Fairs, 07739 998012
- Bolton, BP Fairs, 01604 846688 or 07966 527177

30 DECEMBER

- Doncaster, BP Fairs, 01604 846688 or 07966 527177

1 JANUARY

- Newark, J&J Fairs, 01522 880383

8 JANUARY

- Worthing, SRP Toy Fairs, 07739 998012
- Croydon, Aviation Antiques, 07973 885754

AUCTIONS

2 DECEMBER

- Taunton, Greenslade Taylor Hunt, 01823 332525

6 DECEMBER

- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

7 DECEMBER

- Kent, C&T Auctioneers, 01233 510050
- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

8 DECEMBER

- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

13 DECEMBER

- Newbury, Special Auction Services, 01635 580595

- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

14 DECEMBER

- Newbury, Special Auction Services, 01635 580595

- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

15 DECEMBER

- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

16 DECEMBER

- Bury St Edmunds, Lacy Scott & Knight, 01284 748623

- Stockton-on-Tees, Vectis, 01642 750616

Collectors Club
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Join the club today
Sign up at ccofgb.uk/register



CROYDON AIRPORT
Military, Aviation & Model Collectors Fair 2023
SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY 2023

- Aviation & Military Collectables
- Book & Model Collectors • Plastic Kits
- Diecast Models & Toys

Doors open at 10.30 Children under 10 free.
Free car parking. Event held at the former
Aerodrome Hotel (next door to Airport House)
Contact: Dave Sutton - 07973 885754
Email: davidsutton16@aol.com



GOING FOR GOLD?!

See our **Gold Traders Directory** online!

Contact Kristina on **01778 392096** or email her today at
kristina.green@warnersgroup.co.uk
to include your business



Budgie Gift Set

Andrew Ralston delves into the contents of an intriguing box.

There could hardly be an easier way of offering something new with the minimum of effort – just take a selection of your existing products and repackage them in a gift box. No wonder that practically every maker of toy cars used this tactic. Generally, these sets would have a theme – the various Corgi farm sets, Dinky's 'Emergency Services' and 'Goodwood' sports car sets, and so on. However, this gift set from Budgie is designated simply as "Gift Set No. 4", leaving the purchaser to work out the connection between the four models in the box.

The first thing that stands out is the predominance of the colour orange on both the box and the contents, perhaps a deliberate way of creating some kind of harmony between the items. Two models in the set are familiar subjects, which had quite a long production run, while the other two come from the tail end of the Budgie commercial vehicle series, which ceased in 1966.

The Foden Dump Truck was initially issued in 1958 in a Morestone box. Not many Budgies carried number plates, but this one has "BUD123" front and rear, perhaps as a way of adding a bit of detail to a model that otherwise lacks decoration or transfers. The Leyland Hippo Cattle Transporter, first seen in 1959, is still fairly easy to find.

The other two pieces in the set are less commonly found individually. The tractor appeared first in 1964 with a shovel attachment at the front, operated by hydraulic rams, and a second version followed a year later, now with a dozer blade and a covered cab. The Budgie range was notable for

▲ Orange predominates on both the box and contents of this Budgie Toys gift set.



▲ The models on the bottom row are reasonably easy to find individually, but the two on top are rarer.



▲ Plain box cover gives little clue as to what's inside.

FURTHER READING

Budgie Models by Robert Newson (Leisure Time Publication, 1988)
Farming in Miniature, Volume 1 by Robert Newson, Peter Wade-Martins and Adrian Little (Old Pond Publishing, 2013)

showing creativity and originality in the subjects chosen, and rarely resorted to copying other makers' products, with occasional exceptions such as the Morestone double-deck bus and the small-scale Packard Convertible, which are closely based on Dinky Toys. However, as far as the tractor is concerned, it looks like Budgie copied the Fiat 25R tractor modelled by Gama of Germany in 1961, though the engine detail is different and the rear wheels are solid black plastic, rather than having cream-coloured hubs as on the Gama. The final item in the set, a Leyland Cement Mixer, has echoes of the familiar Dinky Supertoys Albion Chieftain, but it is much simpler in design. While the cement drum does rotate, the movement is not linked to the rear axle as in the case of the Dinky. Both the tractor and cement mixer were only in production for a couple of years, and the style of gift box pictured dates from 1965-66, all of which makes it quite a rarity.

As for the theme linking the four items, three are related to construction, leaving the cattle truck as an odd one out; alternatively, the tractor dozer could equally well work on a farm, making the set a combination of two construction and two farming vehicles. As always, though, Budgie expert Robert Newson has the answer. "Almost any Budgie model could be included in the sets" he writes, "as long as it was a suitable size to fit the space available." Given that quite a few Budgies took the form of long, articulated trucks, the choice of the tractor, cement mixer, dumper and cattle truck is perhaps not all that surprising. **DC**

Dear Editor...

EMAIL YOUR LETTERS AND QUESTIONS TO rick.wilson@warnersgroup.co.uk
OR WRITE TO US The Editor, Diecast Collector, Warners Group Publications plc, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH.

THE CAR IS THE STAR

FOR me, the star of the film *Rain Man* was neither Tom Cruise nor Dustin Hoffman, it was the car, a 1949 Buick Roadmaster, which – as depicted in the film – was inherited by the brothers following their father's death. I had been looking for some years for a model, as the real thing is way beyond my budget. I finally tracked it down a few weeks ago at McLaren Models, near Falkirk. And what a superb model it is! Modelled by Greenlight as a convertible with the hood down at 1/18 scale, the body colour is cream with red seating, with opening doors, bonnet and boot. It features lovely under-bonnet detailing, with the engine, air cleaner and transmission all modelled. It also has whitewall tyres and steerable front wheels.

Ken Cowdry, Stourbridge



ED What a beauty indeed! I missed this when it came out, so I'm grateful to you for bringing it to my attention. I note that McLaren Models still have some stock, if anyone else is interested? RRP is £89.99, but its models are priced at just £69.99 – www.mclaren-models.com. Greenlight's stock number is 13616 for this 1/18 scale and it has also produced the car at 1/43 (86618) and 1/64 (44960C). I now have the latter on order!

GENEVIEVE - THE FIRST TV/FILM-RELATED MODEL?

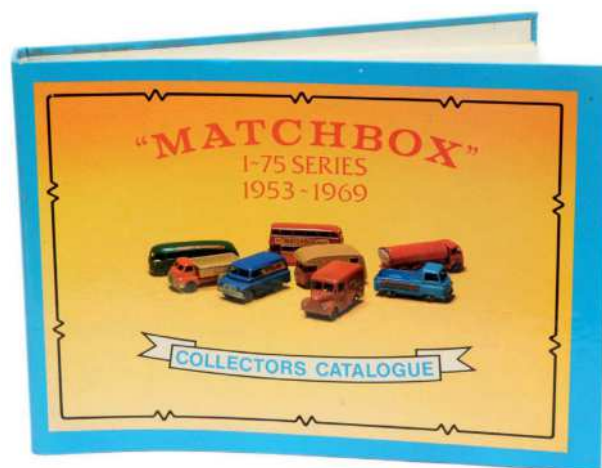


FURTHER to Chris King's letter in the December 2022 issue, as a young boy, my bedroom window overlooked the A23, so I could watch the London to Brighton veteran car run in relative comfort. Furthering my interest in cars, in 1962, I received a Matchbox Gift Set, which included a 1904 Spyker. Notably this car (Y16) has cast in the registration 'MC 4595' as per the car driven by the sleazy Ambrose

Claverhouse (Kenneth More) in the film *Genevieve*. Is this the first unheralded 'TV/film-related' model? Perhaps not as various Darracq models appeared, not least the 1/32 Airfix kit, but the only maker I think overtly acknowledging the film was Lone Star producing 'Genevieve' in its Road Masters series, being branded Genevieve on both model base and card box. Other film/TV- inspired models, of course, have been produced, for example, in 1961, the superb GMC artic number 948, when the equivalent graced our screens in the Canadian TV series *Cannonball*, about truckers' adventures on the road. *No Hiding Place*, in 1959, introduced us to the Humber police car (a twin-headlight Super Snipe) with Dinky producing similar number 256 on its Hawk casting in 1960. Surprisingly, no French Dinky Citroën Traction Avant was imported to capitalise on the popularity of the TV detective series *Maigret* (1960) – although the archetypal detective was actually played by Rupert Davies a Liverpudlian by birth, and Liverpool the home of Dinky Toys.

Patrick Hogan, Beaconsfield

ED Awesome investigations there, Patrick – thank you. I think we have the makings of an article on this subject!



STANNARD CODES – WHAT ARE THEY?

AS I expand my collection into the Matchbox genre, I have found that some auction houses quote the 'Stannard Code'. Can you please give me any information you have on who or what this is, and if a toy is not given a reference does that devalue it? I hope you can give me the information I am looking for on the Stannard Code.

Ford Snelson, Brixham

ED Great to hear from you again. Regarding the Stannard coding, it is one I haven't really delved into as my Matchbox collection starts in 1969 and Michael Stannard's system only goes up to 1969. Basically, he produced a (much sought-after) book in the mid-1980s, but I'm not sure quite how many were printed – a copy sold at Vectis Auctions for £220 a couple of years ago. It is best described by quoting from a page at Worthpoint...

The Stannard Collectors Catalogue has been called the Bible to Matchbox. The book contains castings and colour variations for hundreds of models that Matchbox produced. Introduction (Written by Michael Stannard):

"I started collecting this famous series of models in 1978, but soon found that it was difficult to keep a record of my collection, as catalogues that were available at the time did not allow for the recording of models and their variations in sufficient detail. After consideration, I decided to produce a list for my own use. That list has now progressed to the publication of this catalogue, which I hope will give other collectors the ability to keep a reference of all the variations that they have in their collection."

"You may ask why only 1953 and 1969? The answer is that it has taken six years of my spare time to compile this catalogue, covering 236 basic models released over sixteen years. To include a further fifteen years of Superfast models would I fell take another six years work. However, depending on the demand for this catalogue and time permitting, it may be my next venture."

I hope that helps. And I don't think a lack of a Stannard Code devalues a model, it just adds to the level of detail and might generate a little more interest.



MYSTERY DIESEL ROLLER

I purchased this tiny Diesel Roller at a local toy fair, thinking it was a repainted early Matchbox model. I am really a Dinky collector, but have a small collection of early Matchbox commercial vehicles and I bought the road roller as a load for my Matchbox Bedford Low Loader. However, when I examined the roller more closely, I found it had not been repainted, the orange-red colour is original, as is the green canopy. Unlike the Matchbox versions, the canopy supports are solid one-piece castings and the roller wheels are unpainted bare metal. There are no markings on the casting anywhere. Any ideas? If not, perhaps a reader may be able to identify it?

David Welsh, email

ED Well, that is really rather nice, but you have me stumped too, David. Anyone else here know?



REVISITING GENEVIEVE

WITH reference to the letter in the December issue about diecast models of Genevieve, just a reminder that I did a feature on this in the October 2016 issue, entitled "Sixty Years of Lone Star Road-

masters". The main model is the Lone Star Road-masters Darracq, and at that time we obtained photos of the original car from the Louwens Museum in Holland, where the real 1904 Darracq resides (www.louwmanmuseum.nl).

Andrew Ralston, email

ED Fabulous, thanks Andrew. The October 2016 issue was during my break as Editor (when Tim Morgan was at the helm), but I do have a copy of the magazine to hand. It makes for very interesting reading, if anyone wants to revisit the article.

SMALL CAR IN A SMALL SCALE

I saw you mentioned the new 1/64 Laudoracing Fiat 850 in a recent issue, so I thought you might like to see mine which arrived a couple of months ago. I'm not sure whether this new range works, but it's a nice model and the only model of a Fiat 850 Saloon in this scale. (There are a few Coupés – Penny, Siku and Dynawheels being three of them). It's a nice heavy model, due to the diecast base, and its accurate, but I'm not sure about the lack of glazing. LaudoRacing says on its website that it's trying to capture the feel of old diecasts, but the model would be greatly improved with windows. I've chosen the blue with red interior, as I had one in this colour combination years ago, but all they're all real paint colours, which is a nice detail on a model of this scale. It will be interesting to see how well they sell and whether they extend the range.

Kevin Brock, email

ED So lovely! Two of my favourite things in one model – a classic Fiat and my fastest growing collection scale. I have to say that I've been hovering over the "Buy It" button on LaudoRacing's website for some time now and I've just pressed it!



MORE MG RV8 MODELS

I enjoyed reading David Lynn's article on models of the MG RV8. There is, in fact, a fifth model of the car that exists, which has been in my collection since 1994 when I was lucky enough to purchase one from the Merley House Model Museum, while on a family holiday in Dorset. It's a white metal model by RAE Models of Addlestone, Surrey, and, at the time, was offered in either kit or finished form, and referenced KED 016 by the modelmaker. The model I purchased was finished and, as my photo illustrates (above, left), it's a quite superb – and very festive – display item. Carrying the plate K2 MGR, it's in pearlescent Nightfire Red (a slightly lighter shade than the Neo model, when sat alongside that) and is presented on a wooden plinth with a brass MG RV8 plaque, Santa Claus at the wheel, a sack bursting with presents ready for delivery on the passenger seat, and a snowman and Christmas tree to complete the scene.

Stephen Whiteley, email

I'm pleased to see David Lynn's article on the MG RV8, as it is an often forgotten model in the face of many MGB and Midget models. When my book on *British Sporting Cars in Miniature* was released in 2015, not only were the Maisto and Neo versions featured, but I was able to also include the Banbury made Bond Miniatures version in metallic maroon. Made in white metal, it is a scarce model these days, and the details of Bond as a manufacturer were not available. However, as the image shows (above, right), it is has a flawless paint finish, excellent interior, including detailed dash, excellent scale MG badges and wonderfully-detailed wheels. The door handles are accurate replicas of MG Midget door handles, as the same were used on both the RV8 and my 1969 Austin Healey Sprite – parts bin technology is alive and well! Should your readers want a comprehensive catalogue of models of *British Sporting Cars in Miniature*, they need look no further than my book on my website www.transportmodellingbooks.co.uk, as copies are still available.

David Wright, email

ED Wow, thanks gents. Two more great models, and the festive model is especially wonderful. As is David's book – I can thoroughly recommend getting a copy!

ALL HAIL SMALL SCALE



I'm enjoying your pages about smaller scales, a theme that doesn't get enough coverage. They have come on in leaps and bounds in recent years and the range of models is astronomical. I've got about sixty, by Greenlight, Hot Wheels, Johnny Lightning, Matchbox, Bianta Minicars and Classic Carlectables. What they have

massively in their favour is space. How many 1/64s, and smaller, could you put in the footprint of one 1/18? Pages 58 and 59 of the October issue opened my eyes. On page 58 there are two Hot Wheels Chaparrals, had them for ages, and on page 59, Christian Wilkins Toyota 2000GT shows what can be done with a bit of imagination. I took some Matchbox and Hot Wheels, added some aftermarket wheels from ebay, and a change of colour on some of them. It transformed them, and I'm not even adept at conversions. I've done too many to show here. Attached is a Hot Wheels Escort RS1600. For reference, get yourself a Hot Wheels Focus RS and stick some aftermarket wheels on it. They're superb. I know you like doing mods so I'm sure you could do a good one.

Mick Haven, email

ED Thanks for sharing Mick, that looks ace, and I'm glad you enjoyed the small scale series. There will be more soon...

CLASSIFIEDS

ONLINE

Diecast Car Collector
Old Toys, New Beginnings

Corgi, Matchbox
Superkings, Siku,
Matchbox, Tomica, Herpa,
Kyosho and many more

Call Carl: 07771 906300
www.diecastcarcollector.co.uk
diecastcarcollector@hotmail.com

DEVON

STAMP INSURANCE SERVICES
C G I Services Limited
INSURING COLLECTABLES SINCE 1973
Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority No.300573

LET US INSURE YOUR COLLECTION
REPLACEMENT VALUE,
ALL RISKS, NO EXCESS

Stamps / Postcards - £6,250 £30 p.a. plus IPT
Other Collectables - £5,000 £35 p.a. plus IPT

SEPARATE POLICIES FOR SOCIETIES AND DEALERS
Please write, email or telephone for a quotation
C G I Services Limited, 29 Bowhay Lane,
EXETER EX4 1PE tel: 01392 433 949
mail@stampinsurance.co.uk

WEST MIDLANDS

SPRINGHILL MODELS & CARDS

Stockists of
• OXFORD • IXO • GREENLIGHT
• SCHUCO & others

4 Springhill Lane • Penn • Wolverhampton WV4 4SH
01902 341302
Open Thurs, Fri 10am - 5pm • Sat 10am - 4pm
Email: pete@springhillmodels.co.uk
Web: www.springhillmodels.co.uk

SURREY

WANTED

COLLECTIONS OF DINKY,
Corgi and other diecast cars,
lorries and tractors etc, any
condition, large or small
collections, anything considered.

**Tel: 01264 773018 or
07860 629009 (Hants)**

HAMPSHIRE

CHURCH STREET MODELS

Diecast cars, commercials, WW2
tanks & planes from Base, Britbus,
Classix, CMN, Corgi, Dragon, EFE,
Minichamps, Oxford and more.

Use our secure online shop
or visit in person.

10A Church Street, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 7QE
Closed Tuesdays (not Dec), Sundays & Bank Hols
Tel: 01256 358060

www.churchstreetmodels.co.uk

ONLINE

Collectors Club
OF GREAT BRITAIN

GOING FOR GOLD?!

See our **Gold Traders Directory** online!

Contact Kristina on **01778 392096**
or email her today at
kristina.green@warnersgroup.co.uk
to include your business

KENT



LANCASHIRE

REPRODUCTION BOXES

We do not claim that our repro boxes
are the best available anywhere in the
world but our customers keep telling us
that they are! They certainly make an
excellent companion to your restored or
mint model that has lost its original box.

See our website at:
www.dinkyboxes.com
E-mail:
robb@dinkyboxes.com

CHECK OUT FOR YOURSELF WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS ARE SO EXCITED ABOUT
See us at Sandown Park and N.E.C. Toy Fairs. Tel:- 01204 845279
DRRB, 1 Morris Fold Drive, Lostock, Bolton, Lancs. BL6 4DZ

NORTH YORKSHIRE

Jaunty Jalopies

6 Church Hill, Hunmanby, Nr Filey, YO14 0JU
Landline 01723 890060 Mobile 07889 286559

- Good stock of Corgi Classics, Vanguards, Modern Trucks
- Heavy Haulage, Plant & Construction, Farm, Classic Cars, Steam, Trackside, Aviation Archive
- Vintage Commercials, 1:76 Buses - EFE & Omnibus
 - Massive quantity of Herpa 1:87
 - Huge Selection of Fire & Police Vehicles
- Lots more: Obsolete Corgi, Dinky, Spot-On
 - Matchbox, Conrad, NZG, Joal, Britains, Minichamps, Universal Hobbies, 1:18 etc

Open every Wednesday!

Other days on demand!

Always ~ 150 "BUY IT NOW" Offers on eBay. Search using seller ID: jauntyjalopies
Shop can Open most days On Demand. Simply Arrive & Call for Access.
If making a long journey call first to avoid disappointment.

**COLLECTIONS PURCHASED, Large & Small, New or Old
with Fairness, Discretion & Sensitivity. Will travel nationwide**

Email: science-equip@btconnect.com "Diecast is What we Do" www.jauntyjalopies.co.uk

THE CORGI MODEL PRICE GUIDE

**Dedicated to one of the biggest influences in
toy and collecting trends worldwide**

Appealing to collectors and enthusiasts of all ages, this guide charts
the early years from the days of Mettoy to the launch of Corgi Toys.

Featuring price guides of popular Corgi models, a spotlight on 'Mr
Corgi', Marcel Van Cleemput, a deep dive into the many accessories
and characters produced by the company and MORE!

DOWNLOAD YOUR COPY TODAY AT
www.ccofqb.co.uk/corgi_price_guide

Available as a digital download only



Just
£2.99

On (and off) the scales

Stephen Paul Hardy measures up some models for size.



▲ Stephen Paul Hardy.

Prompted by having the pair of 1/32 Schucos to hand this month inspired me to reflect on whether or not I had become judgementally and prejudicially 'scaleist' in my views. Is that almost automatic pairing that happens in my subconscious healthy, I wondered? You know that rack of pigeon holes that each have a label: 1/76 – model railways, 1/64 – fast track toy cars, 1/32 – toy soldiers, zoos and farms.

Or in reality is scale just one of the filtering mechanisms that help assess how to accommodate a potential new purchase? For years, when I was actively collecting models, I used to vigorously champion 1/87 as the perfect choice for several reasons, including display space.

Then the pendulum swung the other way and, only three years ago, I actually considered saving up and ordering a 1/6th scale Porsche 911 from Matrix, until I reasoned that (apart from the outlay cost) I wouldn't know where to display it and would be forever worried about the regular service and

maintenance costs because, even at one sixth of the normal charging schedule, I wouldn't be able to afford the visits to my local Porsche dealership to keep it the way it was built ... hmm back to the plot.

Very recently, I immersed myself in a pleasurable diversion by reading some of the very early issues of *MODEL AUTO Review*, including a feature by founder, editor and publisher, Rod Ward, about the subject of model scales and the relative sizes they generated. What hit me hard was that, at that point in time, the early 1980s, not only was 1/43 the predominant scale for diecast model vehicles, but, effectively, the ceiling scale as well, with very little larger being available on the market.

Yes, I remember Solido's original 1/17 series diecast model appearing and have vague recollections of the shift in the market that followed. What then I wonder will be the proportional distribution of scales that all the 2023 new releases will be announced in. I guess we won't have long to wait until we find out. **DC**

NEXT MONTH

February 2023
Issue 304

Best of 2022

It's that time of year again when we reveal our favourite review models from the last 12 months.



Please note: These planned editorial contents may be subject to change where necessary.

PLUS...

- Lancia Rally 037
- The Matchbox Annual
- Captain Scarlet SPV by Product Enterprise
- Marvel Civil War by Tomica
- The Lagonda Story
- The Corgi Years – 1965 part 1
- Workbench
- Desert Island Diecasts
- Collecting by numbers – Superfast #31
- Auction results
- All the latest news
- Extensive selection of new model releases, reviewed by our team of experts

February issue on sale 3rd January or download the digital edition
7 DAYS EARLIER on 27th December at www.pocketmags.com/diecast-collector

Hawaii Five-ohhh

Brian Gower gets crafty with a favourite aunt.



For many years, my delightful Aunt Edie dreamed of going to Hawaii. She would describe to little me how she would wear huge and fragrant flowers in her hair, shake her hips in a grass skirt – Hula-hula! – and dance on the beach with warm waves caressing her toes. My Uncle Bert would feed this ongoing desire with recordings of Hawaiian guitar music and by ensuring that their garden had tall banks of chrysanthemums and dahlias throughout the summer.

Nature denied them the multitude of children they should have had, but other people's children were drawn to their sense of fun and fantasy. Edie doted on the pale child with blonde curls who writes of her here.

When visiting our home, she would always take me for a walk, which could easily be diverted to end at the toy shop that all paths lead to. Although my mother would have forbidden me from asking for anything, I would hear myself saying, "Auntie, it's my detective day today," pointing to an automatic pistol, while ignoring the anxious uncertainty in Edie's eyes. I tried to obtain the odd Dinky Toy as well, but she knew and would say, "You already have a lot of those, dear."

When my uncle retired, he found himself rather well-off. New furniture and a piano arrived, trips to clothing shops were made and an experimental holiday taken in Madeira where they were driven around in a Mercedes-Benz for a fortnight. Suddenly, Hawaii was a possibility.

▲ The Bristol 411 is a substantial masterpiece by Lansdowne from Frank Jones Esq., of BHM.

Unfortunately, a misunderstanding between Uncle Bert, pronunciation and the travel agent took them to Haiti instead. The wrong island in a different ocean. When Graham Greene had visited Haiti thirty years earlier, 'Papa Doc' Duvalier was exercising his reign of terror and repression and Greene wrote, "It is impossible to exaggerate the poverty of Haiti." It was also dangerous as Duvalier's enforcers, the Tontons Macoute, acted freely and viciously.

Papa Doc may have been long-gone when Edie and Bert arrived in Port au Prince and lay eyes on their crumbling French colonial hotel. But they couldn't have felt further away from the Hula-Hula island of Edie's dreams. Despite this, my aunt and uncle had an absolute ball.

It can only have been the boundless love and generosity of spirit that poured from this unusual couple that encouraged their hosts to treat them like royalty. Every meal became a party. Except when they slept, I don't believe they were ever alone. My aunt was much given to impromptu palm-reading, which the hotel staff welcomed, and why not? It was free and it was always good news. "Francoise, you will meet a tall dark stranger." "Book him, Danno." Sorry, wrong island again.

So, for my aunt and uncle, Haiti was full of parties, rather than plundering. And my aunt (and her purse) returned intact. It was only in England that her purse was plundered by a small, but crafty boy. "Do you know, I do believe it's my Bristol 411 day today?" Far too late to try that one. **DC**

SELLING YOUR DIECAST MODELS?

Warwick and Warwick have an expanding requirement for early to modern collections of British and foreign diecast models and diecast models of individual value. Our customer base is increasing dramatically and we need an ever larger supply of quality material to keep pace with demand. The market has never been stronger and if you are considering the sale of your collection, now is the time to act.

FREE VALUATIONS

We will provide a free, professional and without obligation valuation of your collection. Either we will make you a fair, binding private treaty offer, or we will recommend inclusion of your property in our next specialist public auction.

FREE TRANSPORTATION

We can arrange insured transportation of your collection to our Warwick offices completely free of charge. If you decline our offer, we ask you to cover the return carriage costs only.

FREE VISITS

Visits by our valuers are possible anywhere in the country or abroad, in order to assess more valuable collections. Please phone for details.

ADVISORY DAYS

We will be visiting all areas of the United Kingdom, please visit our website or telephone for details.

EXCELLENT PRICES

Because of the strength of our customer base we are in a position to offer prices that we feel sure will exceed your expectations.

Live Bidding

Available on www.easyliveauction.com

ACT NOW

Telephone or email
Richard Beale today with
details of your property.



Warwick & Warwick Ltd.
Auctioneers and Valuers
Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road,
Warwick CV34 5DB

Tel: 01926 499031 Fax: 01926 491906
E-mail: richard.beale@warwickandwarwick.com
www.warwickandwarwick.com



Warwick & Warwick



SELL YOUR DIECAST VEHICLE COLLECTION FOR CASH

• Trade in with Hattons for payment within 1 or 2 days of your items arriving with us! •

**GET A FREE
VALUATION
ON YOUR
COLLECTION**



We purchase a wide variety of brands, including:

CORGI

OXFORD

CLASSIX
BY POCKETBOND

Creative Master
Northcord Ltd

Base Toys

Britbus

Northcord
Model Company

Exclusive
First
Editions



Take our 60 second quiz and immediately learn if we can make an offer on your collection!
www.HattonsModelMoney.com/quiz



Get cash for your items in just four easy steps...

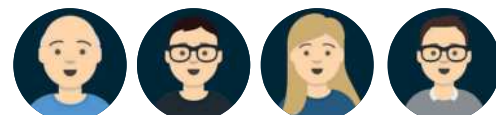
- List**
Prepare & submit a list of your items online or send spreadsheets, documents or photographs to us via our website.
- Offer**
Our expert staff will review your list and create your bespoke valuation.
- Send**
Once the offer is accepted, send your items to us.
- Pay**
Items are checked, the offer confirmed and payment made via **Bank Transfer, Cheque or PayPal**.

Call us on: 0151 305 1755
Phone opening times: Mon to Sun - 9:30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm

Email us at: preowned@hattons.co.uk

17 Montague Road, Widnes, WA8 8FZ

Get in touch with our friendly team...

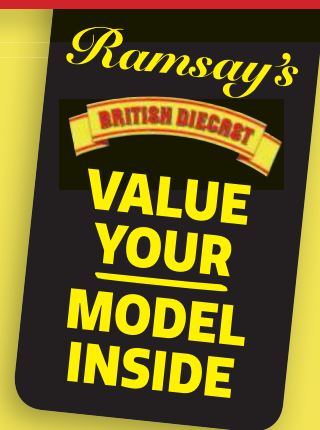


Find out more at www.hattonsmodelmoney.com

SCORPIONS, STREAKERS & ROLAMATICS + SUPER KINGS & SPEED KINGS

Fast and Fifty

**Celebrating the 50th anniversary of
Matchbox Superfast**



SAMPLE

Fast and Fifty

EDITORIAL

Publisher

Rob McDonnell
robm@warnersgroup.co.uk

Editor and Author

Rick Wilson
rick.wilson@warnersgroup.co.uk

Editorial Design

Mike Edwards

Editorial Contributors

All content by Rick Wilson, Mike Piggott

Photography

All photography by Rick Wilson

MARKETING

Marketing Executive

Katherine Brown Tel: 01778 395092
katherine.brown@warnersgroup.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Group Advertising Manager

Claire Ingram Tel: 01778 391179
claire.ingram@warnersgroup.co.uk

Advertising Manager

Kristina Green Tel: 01778 392096
kristina.green@warnersgroup.co.uk

Advertising Production & Design

Nicola Lock Tel: 01778 392420
nicola.lock@warnersgroup.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION

News Trade Distribution

Warners Group Distribution Ltd
Tel: 01778 391150

CONTACT

Write to us at:

Diecast Collector, Warners Group Publications plc,
The Maltings, West Street, Bourne
Lincolnshire PE10 9PH.

Fax: 01778 392422

Website: www.diecast-collector.co.uk
www.collectors-club-of-great-britain.co.uk



This publication is
printed by Warners
01778 395111

DISCLAIMER

No part of this magazine may be published without the prior permission of the publisher. Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily the views of the publisher and the greatest care has been taken to ensure accuracy, but the publishers cannot accept responsibility for omissions or errors.

While every care is taken when accepting advertisements, we cannot accept responsibility for unsatisfactory transactions. We will however investigate any complaints.

Data Protection - Warners Group Publications Plc may lend reputable companies the names & addresses of readers who have responded to offers, services and competitions organised by Diecast Collector magazine. If you do not wish to receive such mailings, please write or phone us at the given address.



50 years on and still going strong

When those first adverts started appearing in my comics during the summer of 1969 announcing the arrival of Superfast wheels that would transform the Matchbox 1-75 series, just like the one shown above, my impressionable five-year-old self was hooked. Look to the right and here is me the following year posing with my newly-released and just-purchased No 23 VW Camper - clearly a very happy boy!



Starting with those three first releases, No 56 BMC Pininfarina, No 5 Lotus Europa and No 20 Lamborghini Marzal, little did we know how the range would grow and that it would still be around to mark this impressive milestone, albeit under different ownership.

I've been planning this publication for years and, thanks to my connection with *Diecast Collector* magazine, have been afforded the opportunity to share my collection with you by way of celebrating those early Superfast years under Lesney.

So this focuses on the years from 1969 to 1982, when Lesney sadly went bankrupt, and concentrates entirely on the British releases. Think of it as an overview as it would be impossible to be exhaustive, but I touch on many of the accessories such as track sets, Matchbox Motorway and the pop-up roadways, and side ranges, such as Streakers, Rolamatics, Super Kings, Speed Kings and Scorpions. I even take a look at the catalogues and box styles.

The core of this publication though is the 1-75 series database and each number in the range has its own page detailing each release with production dates, catalogue years, box styles and variations.

Where each number in the range started in 1969 with regular wheels, this is not included until it becomes a Superfast or gets replaced by a new model that is, but if a non-Superfast appears during the timeline, replacing a Superfast model, it is included - I hope that makes sense! Every UK-released Lesney era casting is included and that totals 246!

It's been quite a task getting this lot together and my collection has expanded significantly as a result - all the models photographed are mine, including all the accessories and sets - it's been a real labour of love! If you enjoy reading this just 1% as much as I have putting this together then you're in for a fabulous ride.

Rick Wilson
Editor and Author



Pay just £3.17 an issue
 saving £16 a year*

Every issue contains:

- The latest news
- Valuations
- Model launches
- More new model releases reviewed than anywhere else!

PLUS every issue will be delivered to your door for free!

The cheapest way to get *Diecast Collector*, Britain's best-selling diecast magazine, is by subscribing for the year!

Call our friendly team today on
01778 392006 and quote
DCC/FAST19 or go online to
www.diecast-collector.co.uk



Contents

6 Boxing Clever

A guide to the wonderful boxes that Lesney produced for the 1-75 series.

8 Keeping it Simple

Production variations to look out for and the tricks that Lesney got up to.

12 What's in a Number?

The 1-75 series laid bare from 1969 to 1982 by number – every casting featured!

88 Collector's Catalogues

Even the marvellous Matchbox catalogues are collectable.

90 Feature Presentation

The Rola-matics releases introduced a new angle of playability to the range.

92 Right on Track

Track sets are what the Superfast range was literally made for.

94 Stung into Action

The Scorpions range was Matchbox's answer to its rivals' products.

96 Storage & Display

Options for keeping your collection safe and on show.

98 A Streak of Genius?

Love them or loathe them, Streakers really made a visual impact.

100 Superfast on the Road

Taking the 1-75 series out and about for both business and pleasure.

102 The Gift of Superfast

Continuing Matchbox's tried and trusted grouped sets in bright new packaging.

106 Double (in a) Bubble

The Two Packs range combined new and old castings into a new package.

108 Superfast Recovery

Tips on how to bring your playworn models back to displayable condition.

110 Super Kings & Speed Kings

Lesney even scaled the Superfast concept up for its King Size range too.

115 What's it Worth?

Updated Ramsay's Price Guide valuations for the 1-75 range.

129 Life Beyond Lesney

The five decades of Superfast have seen quite a few changes.



Boxing Clever

Lesney updated its Superfast packaging artwork on a regular basis to keep it fresh and appealing.

When the Superfast range was given the green light by the powers that be at Lesney, the design team had to come up with a suitable change to reflect the new initiative. It is important to be aware of the various styles that followed as the boxes, if present, add much to a model's value today.

Given the short space of time involved, the first style of box was merely a very subtle update of the current Regular Wheels box with a Superfast script graphic added. Keeping the largely yellow front and back with blue sides and yellow ends with blue borders, this is known as the type F box and the Superfast versions of these began to appear in 1969, coinciding with the launch of the first models in the new range.

As more models were added to the line up from 1970, either as an updated version with the new style wheels or a completely new model altogether, a more substantially reworked box began



Top: The variety of box artwork used by Lesney from 1969 to 1982 was always eye-catching.
Middle: No 29 Fire Pumper Truck in a type F box from 1969.
Bottom: No 6 Ford Pick-up in a 1970 type G box.

to appear. Although still mainly yellow with blue, Superfast logos and branding were much more prominent and the main image was now a very stylish interpretation of the model to give the impression of speed. Referred to as the type G box, this style was mainly used up to 1971, although some models retained this type of box for a longer period.

Type H boxes, the next evolution, were only issued for a small number of models, 18 out of the 75 to be precise, in 1971. Even more stylised than its predecessor, with striking perspective lines adding to the drama and a new Matchbox logo featuring a bold red line underneath and a speeding wheel graphic, these were largely short-lived - although No 54 Ford Capri was still being released in its type H as late as 1976.

Quickly restyled as type I from 1972, gone were the bold red underline and wheel but the overall yellow with blue remained. The style of the perspective lines was slightly tweaked and the Superfast acknowledgement had been moved from the front to the box sides and restyled.

Arriving in 1974, type J boxes saw the first departure from the traditional yellow and blue. With the new style Matchbox logo and its orange and red borders featuring on all sides and ends, the rest of the box had a darker background to highlight this even more. There was another style of Superfast



Top: Larger chain stores, such as Woolworth, preferred a blister pack to maximise shelf presence. **1:** No 75 Alfa Carabo in a type H box from 1971. **2:** No 11 Flying Bug in a 1972 type I box. **3:** No 2 Rescue Hovercraft in a type J box from 1976. **4:** No 11 Car Transporter in a 1976 type K box. **5:** No 18 Hondarora in a type L box from 1979.

graphic too that interchanged with the new “Streakers” and “Rola-matics” alternatives – more about these later in

this publication. The perspective lines were still present and the jauntily angled model image continued too.

Type K type boxes began to appear in 1976 and were largely similar but the perspective lines were now less aggressively angled and the model followed suit. Many survived until the end of the Lesney era in 1982.

First appearing in 1977, type L boxes were also present until 1982. Gone were those dramatic lines, replaced by an artier feel and with a static model image - going full circle in this respect back to the first post-Regular Wheels boxes. Little did we know at the time but this would neatly bookend the box art style of the Superfast era under Lesney ownership. 🍷

Right: The chrome effect big V8 engine block was widely re-used – back row from left to right: No 13 Baja Buggy, No 64 Slingshot (with two of them!), No 62 Rat Rod Dragster and No 8 Wild Cat Dragster, front row with a slightly bigger version: No 61 Blue Shark, No 36 Draguar and No 2 Hot Rod.



Keeping it Simple

Lesney got up to lots of tricks to make the most out of its tooling.

With such an extensive catalogue of 75 models and a need to refresh this range on a fairly regular basis, it was perfectly sensible from a commercial point of view that models evolved and parts got re-used or modified to keep the series appealing. Following are specific examples pertaining to the photos here but these tricks were widespread throughout the range.

Component re-use was a good way of keeping costs down, probably none more prolific than the chrome effect big V8 engine block, although this came in two sizes. We have a good selection here of examples of this on seven models: No 2 Hot Rod, No 8 Wild Cat Dragster, No 13 Baja Buggy, No 36 Draguar, No 61 Blue Shark, No 62 Rat Rod Dragster and No 64 Slingshot.

Casting variations accounted for a quick fix a lot of the time but several models sadly lost opening features during the change to Superfast wheels, the gorgeous No 22 Pontiac Grand Prix

illustrates this well. Not so obvious from the photo is that the Superfast wheels increased the ground clearance so it also lost its low rider look, but it did gain that rather fabulous metallic purple paint job after a short run of red transitional models.

Also during the transition from regular wheels, No 58 Girder Truck lost its cast-in

load steady bars and these were replaced by a one piece plastic “H” affair – this was exactly the same case for No 10 Pipe Truck. Incidentally, the girder truck kept its regular wheels white paint job for the early Superfast issues before the change to the wonderful, if unrealistic, metallic olive green.

When No 5 Lotus Europa got its fat-



Above: No 22 Pontiac Grand Prix lost its opening doors but gained ride height and a fabulous paint job.



Above: Beach Buggy variations, from the left – first release features white tanks and interior with short exhausts, then orange tanks/interior with short exhausts, and finally with longer exhausts and a larger engine unit. Note the subtle artwork differences to the ever-present type H box.



Above: No 5 Lotus Europa with later wide wheels and early skinnies.

Left: No 1 Mod Rod with standard and red wheels, plus two different 'big cat' stickers.

tyred upgrade, rather than modify the baseplate, Lesney opted to modify the body casting to accommodate the new wheels – this is much more noticeable on the rear wheels than at the front.

Changes to No 1 Mod Rod were very limited and a short run with some rather natty red wheels is probably the most obvious of these. Take a look at those bonnet stickers though – two different types of big cat designs. A few even left the factory with stickers from the Scorpions range.

A good example of re-use and evolution of a casting can be seen when comparing No 6 Pick-up, No 50 Kennel Truck and No 57 Rola-matics Wild Life Truck. The casting was modified from Pick-up for Kennel Truck, with the rear deck puffed out a bit, but this was insufficient when the latter was upgraded to the wider wheels so the baseplate was modified to accommodate most of the extra width. This arrangement then carried over for Wild Life Truck. Another great example of the evolution of a casting was the changes

made between No 30 Beach Buggy, No 13 Baja Buggy and No 47 Beach Hopper. These were three great individual releases that shared a common front end.

No 30 Beach Buggy is painted in a fabulous metallic deep-pink with random yellow paint spatter, ensuring no two models look alike. The very first releases had a white plastic interior and fuel tanks and earlier versions also had less pronounced exhausts (these lasted considerably longer than the white interiors and tanks though so are easy enough to find). Lasting for seven years in the range, it was only ever released in the type H box, but with variations to the artwork.

Released two years later, No 13 Baja Buggy retained the nose of its sibling. The sloping roof was gone though, replaced by a squarer version, presumably inspired by the roll cages found on many of the buggies adapted for use on the famous Baja Rally. However, the engine was completely unrealistic as it featured a high mounted exposed V8 – it does look

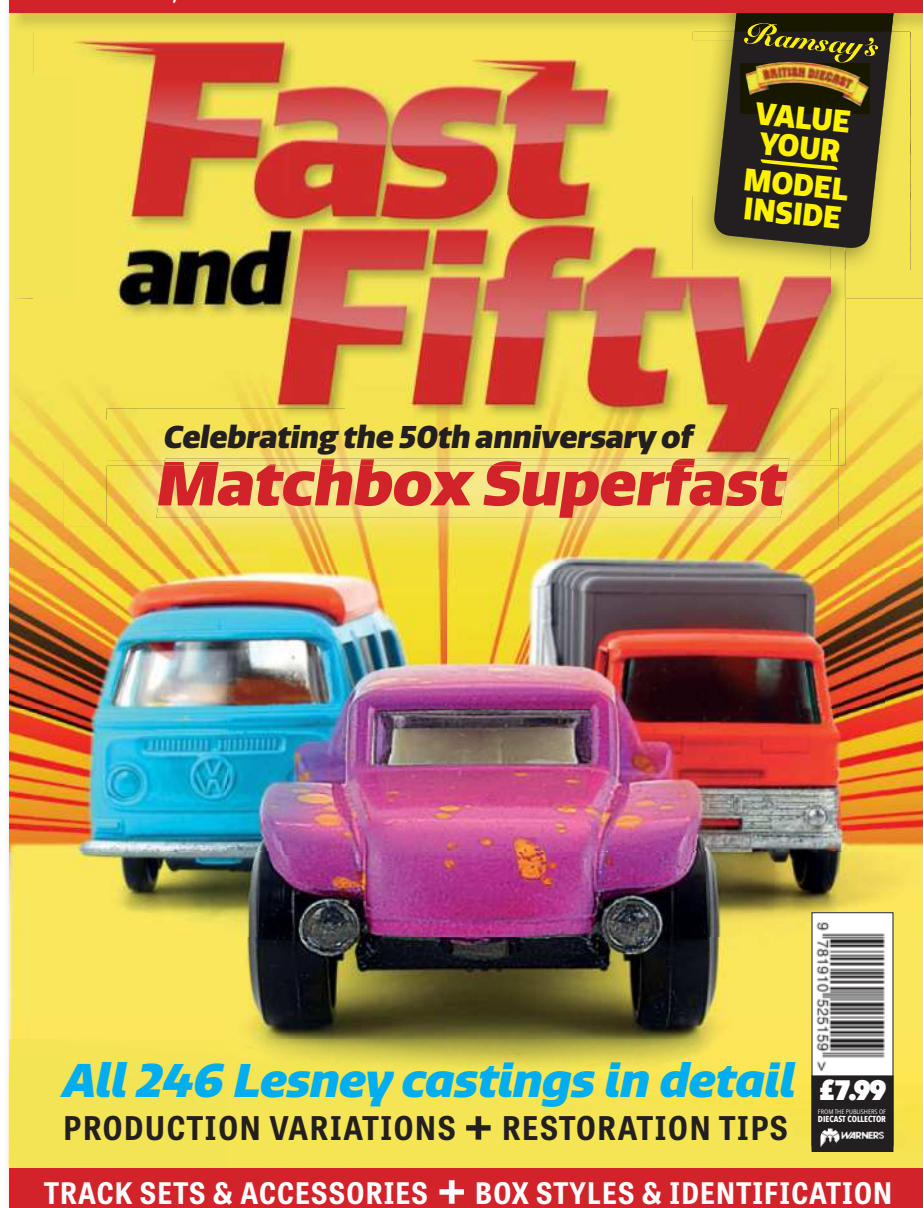


Top: No 6 Pick-up, No 50 Kennel Truck and No 57 Rola-matics Wild Life Truck are a good example of how basic lines got re-used.

Above: No 58 Girder Truck underwent a casting change in the transition to Superfast.

IF YOU HAVE ENJOYED READING THIS SAMPLE, DOWNLOAD THE FULL 132 PAGE SPECIAL EDITION MAGAZINE TODAY!

SCORPIONS, STREAKERS & ROLAMATICS + SUPER KINGS & SPEED KINGS



Ramsay's
BRITAIN DIECAST
**VALUE
YOUR
MODEL
INSIDE**

Fast and Fifty

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of
Matchbox Superfast

All 246 Lesney castings in detail
PRODUCTION VARIATIONS + RESTORATION TIPS

£7.99
FOR THE DIECAST COLLECTOR
WARNERS

TRACK SETS & ACCESSORIES + BOX STYLES & IDENTIFICATION



DOWNLOAD NOW