

» **PRICE GUIDE:** LATEST TOY AUCTION RESULTS



DIECAST

COLLECTOR

Collectors Club
OF GREAT BRITAIN

www.ccofgb.co.uk • £6.99 • September 2025 • Issue 335

The UK's only diecast magazine!

LATEST MODELS

Blue Diamonds!

The story behind Corgi's new Aviation Archive P-51D Mustang Jersey Jerk.

PLUS!
THE LATEST
COLLECTING
NEWS

ALSO

INSIDE...

**COVENTRY
DIECAST
MODEL CLUB**

Celebrating its
50th anniversary



» **BEAULIEU AMERICAN & CUSTOM SHOW**

Looking at inspiration for potential model cars of the future

» **WORK, REST & PLAY WITH SOLIDO**

The latest retro themed Volkswagen T1 'Splitty' releases reviewed

Price: £6.99



WARNERS
GROUP PUBLICATIONS LTD
Display until 02/09/25

EXCALIBUR AUCTIONS

THE COLLECTABLES AUCTION HOUSE

WE CARE FOR YOUR ITEMS AS MUCH AS YOU DO



SOLD
£350



SOLD
£250

bid live in
the room

register to
bid online

DIECAST AUCTION

20th Sep

10AM



SOLD
£260



SOLD
£140



SOLD
£80



SOLD
£130



SOLD
£170

020 3633 0913

www.excaliburauctions.com

DC@excaliburauctions.com

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

The easiest way to get your copy of Diecast Collector is to subscribe!



Pay just £59.99 for 12 issues

Saving over 28% when you subscribe yearly!*

Why subscribe...

- Stay up to date with the latest news, reviews, and price guides
- Get inspired by auctions, toy fair, and event reports
- Features on big-name brands
- Practical tips for buying, restoring, and displaying models

**FREE
GIFT!***

**Get a free collectable model when you subscribe!*



HOW TO ORDER YOURS...

Simply scan the QR code seen here, visit <https://ccofgb.uk/DiecastCollector> or call our team on 01778 392006 and quote DCC/SUBS25.



*T&Cs apply. Rate applies when you subscribe to 12 issues of Diecast Collector magazine. Free gift will vary. See website for details.

CONTENTS

FOLLOW US AT  @ccofgb  @CollectorClubGB  CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain  CollectorsClubofGB

REGULARS

06 News and events

What's happening in the world of diecast collecting.

38 Little and Large

In which Steve Coles compares models of the same car... but in differing scales!

47 Collecting by Numbers

Charting the evolution of the Matchbox Superfast range during the Lesney years, from 1969 to 1982.

48 A-Z of Diecast

In which Alwyn Brice continues his series, leafing through the alphabet of diecasts.

50 Top Vintage Model

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

58 Your Models

A pictorial snapshot of your prized diecast models and collections.

59 Dear Editor

Your diecast-related questions shared.

62 A female perspective

Hazel Ralston considers the world of model collecting, through different eyes...

NEW MODELS

10 What's New

Six pages looking at the latest new models and in-depth reviews.

42

38



18 High Summer

Stephen Paul Hardy looks at Solido's take on 'work, rest & play' with its latest VWT1 'Splitty' releases.

21 Diecast Collector Model Shop

We've reviewed the models... now you can buy them directly from us!

FEATURES

22 David's cars and other pastimes

David Wright looks back at his life of cars and driving, brings each to life, and shows us how they look in 1/43 scale!

26 Safari Rally - still a few more!

Francisco Mota brings the list up to date with a few more items to add to this collection.

30 Beaulieu American & Custom Show

Stephen Paul Hardy looks to a recent show at Beaulieu for model insights, inspiration and a significant international unveilings.

32 The Range Rover reaches 55

Steve Coles concludes his exploration of the models produced of the Range Rover Classic.

36 Coventry Diecast Model Club

In which Ann Evans marks its 50th anniversary with a party and special model release...

40 Matchbox Jaguar E-Type

Paul Brent Adams compares variations of everyone's favourite classic car.



DIECAST

COLLECTOR

EDITORIAL

Publisher Claire Ingram
claire.ingram@warnersgroup.co.uk

Group Editor Cathy Herron
cathyh@warnersgroup.co.uk

Junior Content Editor Amelia Jones
amelia.jones@warnersgroup.co.uk

Regular Editorial Contributors

David Pullen, Richard Carlson, Steven Downes, Francisco Mota, Michael Driver, Mike Pigott, Rick Wilson, Charles Barnett, Alwyn Brice, Keith D'Souza, Jarrod Cotter, Steve Coles, Ed Karswell, Andrew Ralston, David Lynn, Stephen Paul Hardy, Hazel Ralston

MARKETING

Marketing Manager

Sophie Thornton Tel: 01778 395085
sophie.thornton@warnersgroup.co.uk

Marketing Assistant

Rebecca Abbott Tel: 07799 695722
rebecca.abbott@warnersgroup.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Advertising Manager

Kristina Green Tel: 01778 392096
kristina.green@warnersgroup.co.uk

Advertising Production

Kay Cotterill Tel: 01778 395065
k.cotterill@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 £5.99 - Europe & Eire Airmail £18.99
Worldwide Airmail £19.99

Digital subscriptions are available from £12.99 – visit
www.pktmags.com/dcc_digital for more details.

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, Lincs, PE10 9PH.

Email us at:

CollectingEditorial@warnersgroup.co.uk

PRINTING

Warners Midlands plc
Tel: 01778 395100



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



30



22

42 Corgi's new Jersey Jerk
Jarrod Cotter looks at the story behind one of Corgi's new releases to the 2025 range, P-51D Mustang Jersey Jerk in 1/72 scale.

AUCTIONS

54 Price Guide
Value your collection with auction results from around the country.

60 Toy Fair Times
News of upcoming auctions and events that you might want to put in your diary.



SUBSCRIBE TO DIECAST COLLECTOR FOR 12 MONTHS & receive a free* diecast model!

Turn to page 3 to find out more! *T&Cs apply



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.

NEWS

FOLLOW US AT  @ccofgb  @CollectorClubGB  CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain  CollectorsClubofGB



AVIATION 72'S NEW SAAB DRAKENS HAVE LANDED

REVIEWED in detail in the July 2025 issue, Aviation 72's terrific trio of new Saab Draken fighter aircraft have all now received the promised modifications to the cockpits on the pre-production versions shown in the review and have now arrived in the UK through Cleveland's Diecast. A fourth version will follow in a few months' time, with more details of that in due course.

The 1/72 Saab J35J Draken in the striking Splinter Scheme is an expertly crafted die-cast metal model, this highly detailed model features authentic Swedish Air Force markings, a fixed deployed undercarriage, and a full array of precision ordnance. Complete with a premium display stand, this collector's edition is a must-have for aviation enthusiasts and military model collectors. This

will cost you £42 to add to your collection.

The Air Force yellow model is like the previously mentioned Splinter Scheme, the Drakens finished with a bright yellow were often seen on aircrafts used for test and training purposes. Their most recognised feature is the double delta wing, which provided excellent manoeuvrability and performance at supersonic speeds. Available for £69.98.

The Austrian Air Force was a refurbished J35D model, they were the last aircraft to carry internal cannons, due to the restrictions on missile carriage at the time. This 1/72 model is available for £69.98.

For wholesale enquiries, visit www.clevelanddiecast.co.uk. Or contact your preferred retailer. ■



F1: THE MOVIE FROM HOT WHEELS

AHEAD of the global theatrical release of Apple Original Films' F1 The Movie, Hot Wheels® announced today a limited-edition die-cast car inspired by the fictional Apex Grand Prix (APXGP) team, driven by the film's character Sonny Hayes, played by Brad Pitt. The 1:64 scale Formula 1 die-cast will be available for purchase on MattelCreations.com beginning June 24, prior to the release of the film in theatres on 27 June, from Warner Bros. Pictures.

The 1:64 scale die-cast channels the high-octane energy and cutting-edge design of the APXGP team's Formula 1 car, bringing movie magic and motorsport realism together in true Hot Wheels fashion.

Following last year's multi-year licensing partnership announcement with Formula 1 and two subsequent sold-out collaborative product pre-order launches, this release provides automotive enthusiasts, racing fans, pop culture devotees and movie lovers a way to take a little piece of F1 The Movie home with them.

True to the race car driven by the character Sonny Hayes in the film, the Hot Wheels casting and the moulded driver's helmet feature an authentic gold and black livery adorned with Hayes' number seven. Customers will also receive three sets of Pirelli tyres and a tyre storage rack.

Additionally, the car will come in a collector's 'Kar Keepers' clamshell case to deliver the ultimate collector experience.

"Our previous Formula 1 product launches were incredibly well received by racing fans and Hot Wheels collectors and now we can share a piece of the collection with film lovers around the world," said Roberto Stanichi, executive vice president, Hot Wheels & global head of vehicles and building sets at Mattel. "The APXGP die-cast allows Hot Wheels to connect with a new audience of moviegoers who now have the opportunity to own a 1:64 scale piece of cinematic and racing history."

The 1:64 scale die-cast will be available for £30. For more information, please visit <https://uk.creations.mattel.com/products/hot-wheels-f1-the-movie-vehicle-jmt03>. ■

HIGHLY ANTICIPATED MAJORETTE MODELS!

THE first wave of Majorette's highly anticipated "Collection" series should begin to hit UK stores in September/October, comprised of Chevrolet's 1955 Bel Air, 1985 Camaro and 2005 Corvette C6.R, the 1965 Shelby Mustang GT350, the 1985 Porsche 930 Turbo, and Honda's NSX-R GT from 2005. The line is the brand's first real attempt at true 1/64 scale and will become the flagship of an already impressive and expansive range.

The team at Majorette HQ have picked a significant car from each decade of the 20th and 21st centuries to replicate, and for

Collection releases in 2025 each vehicle will have production years ending in "XXX5". This is a feature that will continue chronologically; In 2026, the Collection waves will comprise of cars made in years ending in "XXX6" and so on and so forth. Three "waves" of six models will arrive each year, made up of a mix of both recolours and new castings.

All Collection models come very neatly packaged, resplendent in a smart blister pack and sitting screwed to plastic bases with Perspex protection. And all models have screw-on metal



baseplates (a feature that not only increases the desirability, but will no doubt also appeal to customisers) and functioning suspension, retaining Majorette's trademark suspension clip.

Quality and finish are fantastic, and with a price point of around £9 when they hit stores, they will prove a more than capable competitor to the Mattel Premium lines. ■

THE LANSDOWNE MODELS ARE BACK

IT'S the first all-new Lansdowne Model since the Ford Consul MkI way back in 2020. The new model is of the 1984 Austin Montego 1.6L. Numbered LDM121. The Austin Montego was a British family car produced from 1984 to 1995 in both saloon and estate variants. The Montego replaced both the Morris Ital and the Austin Ambassador ranges to give British Leyland a new competitor to the Ford Sierra and Vauxhall Cavalier. The Montego is available in two colours; Clove Brown which is more of a maroon, and Moonraker Blue Metallic with tan and grey interiors respectively. It is to 1/43rd scale, and it is only

available direct from Brooklin, priced at £134.99. It measures at 110mm or 4 and a half inches. This model is produced in white metal with moulded plastic components to form the front end.

The Austin Estate is now being produced at Lansdowne and is due to be shipped soon. It is selling well with the Moonraker Blue version having sold out already, although a second batch could appear. So, keep an eye on the Brooklin models page for the restock of these products. ■



THE MATRIX CELEBRATION MODELS

MATRIX have announced they are releasing two brand new models later this year. They are going to be the Jaguar XJS 4.0 Celebration Convertible, alongside the MG ZT-T 260.

1996 marked the last year of production for the XJS of the Jaguar stable. The celebration special edition was created to coincide with the Jaguar's 60th anniversary. The last XJS could be recognised by its diamond-cut alloy wheels, seats with Jaguar stitching, a wooden steering wheel and special bumpers. These models will be released in a convertible open red, a convertible closed blue

and a convertible open turquoise. They will all be at a 1/43rd scale.

The MG ZT-T was the estate version, the saloon version, the saloon being MGZT. The body shape was that of the Rover 75. The ZT and ZT-T models received a V8 power unit in 2003. The models being released are metallic blue, metallic silver and metallic green.

They are expected to be released in the 3rd quarter of 2025 and with a few hundred of each model being made, keep your eyes peeled in upcoming issues for release dates. ■



NEWS

FOLLOW US AT  @ccofgb  @CollectorClubGB  CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain  CollectorsClubofGB

BRAND NEW RADSCALE COLLECTIBLES

FENDY Hu the passion and driving force behind Radscale Collectibles ("Into the New Year" January 2024 issue) recently revealed three interesting new 1/18 sealed resin models currently in development.

Well known particularly for its models of Swedish Volvo and Saab marques the Radscale Collectibles catalogue is looking towards depicting products of the North American motor industry. Two new models lead this interesting development in the form of the 1990 Chevrolet APV and earlier, 1980s era, GMC pick-up truck.

In addition, and back to familiar marque, territory the third model is of the early version

Saab 900 convertible which will make a superb addition to the previously released later series Volvo convertibles from Radscale Collectibles and the former DNA Collectibles ranges. Perhaps significantly also many Saab fans consider the 900 series as a watershed point in Saab production history suggesting this is going to be. A very popular choice amongst collectors.

As far as can be seen from photos of all three in pre-production form detailing is right up to the latest high-quality standards from this manufacturer. Of course, as ever with convertibles the Saab 900 allows closer inspection and enjoyment of the interior and dashboard



thanks to the lack of vision inhibiting roof and glazing!

No doubt these potential new releases will also benefit from the expanding range of orderable customisations – colour combinations, wheel finishes and in some cases even accessorisation – that this

manufacture is increasingly offering. As and when further details become available Diecast Collector looks forward to sharing them ■

NEXT MONTH OCTOBER 2025

Issue 336



A Touch of Class

The Story of Matchbox No.44 Rolls-Royce, from Silver Cloud to Phantom V – a closer look at the regal models that brought luxury to the miniature world.

PLUS...

- Models 'Now and Then'
- Auction results
- All the latest news
- Extensive selection of new model releases
- And much more

ON SALE
2 SEPTEMBER
...or download the
digital edition 7
days earlier!

Please note: These planned editorial contents may be subject to change where necessary.

AMAZING DIECAST BARGAINS FROM KEITH'S CARS OF DERBY

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

GREAT 1/43 MODELS! ALL POST FREE!!



ATLAS CADILLAC SERIES 62 ROYAL MARRIAGE
BELGIUM 1960 (CASE CRACKED) 21.99



CORGI SCREEN STARS MK2 FORD CAPRI 2.0S &
JAGUAR XJ6 S2 'MINDER' 79.99



IXO 1966 MACK R SERIES TR212 38.99



IXO 1970 GMC ASTRO 95 TR213 38.99



IXO 1970 MAN F7 19.320 CAR TRANSPORTER 82.99



IXO 1990 FORD ESCORT MK4 XR3I 29.99



IXO 1998 JAGUAR XJ8 29.99



IXO 1998 KENWORTH T2000 TR214 38.99



IXO 2018 FREIGHTLINER CASCADIA TR211 38.99



TRIPLE 9 1962 VOLVO AMAZON 220 ESTATE 34.99



TRIPLE 9 1976 VOLKSWAGEN TYPE 2 KOMBI 29.99



TRIPLE 9 1987 VOLVO 780 BERTONE 34.99



TRIPLE 9 1990 VOLVO 480 TURBO CABRIOLET 34.99



TRIPLE 9 VITESSE 1983 MK3 FORD ESCORT XR3I
27.99



VANGUARDS 1976 FORD CAPRI MK2 3.0S X-PACK
37.99



VANGUARDS 2005 MG ZT+ 135 CDTI 37.99



VANGUARDS FORD TRANSIT CUSTOM 300L1 RICH-
ARD HAMMOND'S 'THE SMALLEST COG' 37.99



VITESSE MITSUBISHI LANCER EVO X UK PRIVATE
AMBULANCE 499 PIECES ONLY! 41.99



WHITEBOX 1954 SKODA 1201 KOMBI ESTATE 29.99



WHITEBOX 1960 WARTBURG 312 CAMPING
ESTATE 29.99

NEW RANGE! 'IXO AMERICA' SAME GREAT QUALITY, BUT LOWER PRICES!!



1969 FORD MUSTANG MACH 1 19.99



1970 DODGE CHARGER 19.99



1970 FORD MUSTANG BOSS 429 19.99



1970 OLDSMOBILE 442 W-30 COUPE 19.99



1971 PLYMOUTH GTX 19.99



2002 PETERBILT 379 CUSTOM 'BIG SLEEPER' 36.99



2018 DODGE CHALLENGER SRT DEMON 'PLUM
CRAZY' 19.99

BIG STUFF!! NEW 1/18 DIECAST MODELS! ALL POST FREE!!



BURAGO FERRARI 312T4 GILLES VILLENEUVE
WINNER SOUTH AFRICAN GP 1979 93.99



BURAGO FERRARI 312T4 JODY SCHECKTER
WINNER MONACO GP 1979 93.99



SUNSTAR MG METRO 6R4 RENTOKIL INITIAL
KILLARNEY RALLY 2018 CRAIG BREEN & PAUL
NAGLE 119.99



KK SCALE 1965 MK1 FORD TRANSIT MINIBUS
BLUE & WHITE 94.99



KK SCALE 1965 MK1 FORD TRANSIT MINIBUS
RED 94.99



SUNSTAR MG METRO 6R4 SHELL DONEGAL RALLY
2006 COLIN MCRAE & NICKY GRIST 119.99

HIGH END 1/43 RESIN MODELS AMAZING PRICE REDUCTIONS!



AUTOCULT 1969 JEEP CJ5 UNIVERSAL CAMPER
RRP 129.99 OUR PRICE 84.99!!



KESS 1949 TRIUMPH ROADSTER RRP 104.99 OUR
PRICE 69.99!!



KESS 1994 BENTLEY B3 COUPE (CONTINENTAL
R) SULTAN OF BRUNEI BLACK RRP 104.99 OUR
PRICE 69.99!!



KESS 1994 BENTLEY B3 COUPE (CONTINENTAL
R) SULTAN OF BRUNEI GREEN RRP 104.99 OUR
PRICE 69.99!!



KESS 1994 BENTLEY B3 COUPE (CONTINENTAL
R) SULTAN OF BRUNEI RED RRP 104.99 OUR
PRICE 69.99!!



KESS PLYMOUTH 1968 FURY 4 DOOR SEDAN RRP
104.99 OUR PRICE 69.99!!

EXCELLENT 1/24 MODELS BY WHITE BOX BIG SAVINGS! RRP 35.99: OUR PRICE 25.99 EACH POST FREE!!



1924 OPEL 4-12 PS



1976 CITROEN CX SAFARI ESTATE

MINI GT 1/64
JAMES BOND
JAGUAR C-X75
'SPECTRE' 20.99
POST FREE OR
17.99 IF
ORDERED WITH
ANY OTHER
MODEL!!



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

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.

PROFESSIONALMANIA'S FINAL RELEASE IN ITS CORGI-COMMISSIONED SERIES

First airing in 1977, *The Professionals* TV series was incredibly popular and there's a good chance that you may well already be humming the famous Laurie Johnson-penned theme tune. It was created by Brian Clemens, who had been one of the driving forces behind *The Avengers* and *The New Avengers*.

Produced for London Weekend Television (LWT), *The Professionals* aired on the ITV network from 1977 to 1983. Spanning five series, a total of 57 episodes were made, filmed between 1977 and 1981. Focusing on a fictitious law enforcement department known as CI5, the boss was George Cowley (played by Gordon Jackson) and his two best agents were Ray Doyle (Martin Shaw) and William Bodie (Lewis Collins).

The vehicles used throughout became almost as popular as the show's stars. For the first episodes of the initial series, filmed in early 1977, the cars used were mainly supplied by British Leyland. However, a few reliability problems and British Leyland reportedly requiring them back to lend to the motoring press as review cars was causing disruption to filming. The supplier was subsequently switched to Ford.

Following on from the success of his previous three releases – CP14901 Doyle's Ford Escort Mk2 RS2000, CP10801 Bodie's Ford Capri Mk3 3.0S and CP91990 Cowley's Ford Granada Mk2 2.8i Ghia Automatic & Doyle's Ford Capri Mk3 3.0S – all commissioned direct from Corgi, Professionalmania's Tony Buller has taken delivery of the next release in his series of cars from *The Professionals* TV show.

This latest release replicates Bodie's Capri Mk2 3.0 Ghia in Arizona Gold. Originally intended to coincide with the programme's 50th anniversary in



ABOVE
The model comes packaged in a wonderfully eye-catching box, featuring suitable branding, as per Tony's other *Professionals* models by Corgi.

2027, Tony decided to release this one early to follow neatly on from his other commissions. Corgi has done this model proud and the finish is truly top notch, with the single driver's-side door mirror packed separately to prevent damage in transit to this finely-detailed part.

Tony is a massive fan of the show and runs a company called Professionalmania Ltd. This latest release is a limited edition of 1,000 models of the famous car, complete with the correct registration number (PNO 580R) and a replica GB sticker on the boot lid. It comes in wonderfully eye-catching packaging, featuring suitable branding, as per Tony's other models.

All the earlier releases have long since sold out and this model is already going fast, just like the cars in the show, so to make sure you get yours, drop Tony an email at

professionalmania@hotmail.com.

CORGI FOR PROFESSIONALMANIA
Ford Capri Mk2 3.0 Ghia PNO 580R – Arizona Gold

SCALE: 1/43
PRICE: £45.00 (plus P&P)
REF: CP15401

professionalmania@hotmail.com

LEFT
This latest release replicates Bodie's Capri Mk2 3.0 Ghia in Arizona Gold. Corgi has done this model proud and the finish is truly top notch.





MATRIX MODELS
1938 Aston Martin 15 / 98 2-4
passenger Tourer - Light Grey
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £120 REF: MX 40108-171
www.matrixscalemodels.com

Well-detailed with a very neat polished-metal fascia panel especially noteworthy. Tan seats and neat black wire wheels.



MATRIX MODELS
1938 Aston Martin 15 / 98 2-4
passenger Tourer - Red
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £120 REF: MX 40108-172
www.matrixscalemodels.com

This version of the pre-war Aston has red seats and wheels, and the same black tonneau covering the rear seats, as the other versions. Very good once again.



MATRIX MODELS
1938 Aston Martin 15 / 98 2-4
passenger Tourer - Black
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £120 REF: MX 40102- 142
www.matrixscalemodels.com

All-black version of the late 'thirties Aston has green seats. Another beautiful model from this manufacturer.



MATRIX MODELS
1963 Alfa Romeo Giulia GT Spyder
Prototype - White
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £120 REF: MX 40102- 142
www.matrixscalemodels.com

Great replica with an excellent finish and detail inside and out, and with a black interior. Also available in dark metallic grey and dark metallic brown.



MATRIX MODELS
55 Alfa Romeo 1900 Super,
Primavera Coupe by Boano
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £120 REF: MMX 40102- 083
www.matrixscalemodels.com

This is the third version of this pretty coupe, with its unusual two-toning. Very well-detailed with particularly good plated trim adding to the flamboyant look.



MATRIX MODELS
1962 Facel-Vega Excellence EX2
Saloon - Maroon
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £120 REF: MX 40601-022
www.matrixscalemodels.com

Excellent detail and with black interior. Also available in silver with black vinyl roof and black seats, and in metallic dark green with tan inside.



IXO
Lada 1200 1971 Blue
SCALE: 1/18 PRICE: £87.99
REF: 18CMC2040P
www.ixomodels.com

With this fine model, the bonnet, doors, and boot all open, the interior reveals the utilitarian interior in tan vinyl, whilst the generous exterior bright work is good.



MATRIX MODELS
Jaguar XK150 S 3.8 Fastback by
Hartin #T825146/DN
SCALE: 1/43 PRICE: £118.99 REF: MX41001-141
www.matrixscalemodels.nl

Matrix's replica of this rare Jaguar is spot-on, capturing the bespoke coachbuilding very well within resin. The bright work has been applied well.

NEWLY TOOLED PROJECT 207 TRACTOR

It's eleven years since Weise-toys released its last Claas models. These were models of the Claas Xerion 4000VC and Saddle Trac tractors. The new Project 207 tractor continues the theme, being the tractor Claas built in the late 1970s as part of its program to develop a multipurpose machine for farming. It was the fore runner to the Xerion range.

Weise-toys has released two limited editions of the newly tooled Project 207 tractor and this edition in yellow is the second. Like all Weise-toys models the Project 207 tractor is a well-engineered, largely metal model with good levels of detailing and many working features. In front of the engine there's a clevis drawbar with pin and working three-point linkage with adjustable length top link. There's also another detailed, working three-point linkage with two clevis drawbars provided at the other end of the tractor. The tractor has all-wheel steering and the cab's provided with work lights, driving mirrors and rotates through 180 degrees. Both the side and back cab doors open as does the side window giving good access to the interior. Inside the cab has good levels of detailing with black patterned matting, detailed steering column and light tan seat with black armrests. To the right of the seat there's the control console with screens. Detailed at the cab rear there's a red fire

WEISE-TOYS
Claas Xerion
Project 207 Tractor

PRICE: £126.83
SCALE: 1/32
REF: 0002671730

www.collection.claas.com

extinguisher and flexible tubing.

Supplied in a special presentation box and limited to a run of 500, the individually numbered model is available from Claas and its dealer network only. ■



RIGHT
Inside the cab you can see good levels of detailing with patterned matting and steering column.

BELOW RIGHT
The Claas Xerion Project 207 Tractor, as seen in its presentation box.



USK SCALEMODELS
Fendt e107 V Vario Fendt Tractor
SCALE: 1/32 **PRICE:** £87.24
REF: X991024005000

www.shop.fendt.com

Beautifully engineered, largely metal model with working linkages, hinged bonnet, steerable wheels and opening doors. Good levels of cab interior detail.



BRITAINS
John Deere Garden Play Set
SCALE: 1/32 **PRICE:** £21.99
REF: 43386

www.britainsfarmtoys.co.uk

Great set with John Deere Z955R ride-on mower, three figures and eight hand tools. Tools include pedestrian mower, a spade, rake, brush, strimmer, leaf blower.



SIKU
Massey Ferguson 9S.425 Tractor
SCALE: 1/32 **PRICE:** £110
REF: 6885

www.siku.de

Powered by three AAA batteries the tractor's steering, speed, travel direction and lights are all controlled using the free app from any smartphone or tablet.



ERTL
Claas Xerion 4500 Trac VC Tractor - North America Edition
SCALE: 1/43 **PRICE:** £40.97 **REF:** 0002674390

www.collection.claas.com

Well-built model with working linkages, folding driving mirrors and a fully glazed cab that rotates through 180 degrees. Neither the front nor rear wheels steer.



DIECAST • MODELS • HOBBIES • TOYS

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

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



FOLLOW US
@ClevelandsTrade



LIKE US
ClevelandsTrade



SEE LATEST MODELS
user/ClevelandsTrade

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

TRADE ONLY

UK DISTRIBUTOR FOR:

MGT01052 - 1/64 PORSCHE 911 GT3 R #77 "ROXY"
AO RACING 2024 IMSA ROAD AMERICA

MGT01074 - 1/64 FORD PUMA RALLY 1 #16
M-SPORT FORD WRT 2024
RALLY FINLAND
3RD PLACE

MGT01053 - 1/64 LAMBORGHINI LB-SILHOUETTE
WORKS MURCIELAGO GT EVO BLACK

MGT01076 - 1/64 MERCEDES-BENZ 190 E
2.3-16 #11 AYRTON SENNA 1984
NURBURGRING RACE OF
CHAMPIONS WITH
DRIVER FIGURE



MINI GT

MGT01075 - 1/64 HONDA NS-X PROTOTYPE MIDSHIP
SPORTS 1989 AYRTON SENNA WITH DRIVER FIGURE

ALL ALSO AVAILABLE IN BLISTER PACKAGING

MGT01064 - 1/64 ABARTH 595 LB-WORKS
X ABAS WORKS FIGHTERS



MGTKHMG175 - 1/64 NISSAN SKYLINE 2000GT-R
(KPGC10) KAIDO STREET V1



MGTKHMG226 - 1/64 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
KAIDO WORKS V3



MGTKHMG228 - 1/64 NISSAN SKYLINE 2000 GT-R
(KPGC10) KAIDO STREET V2



MGTKHMG222 - 1/64 NISSAN SKYLINE GT-R (R34)
KAIDO WORKS GREDDY V2

KAIDO ★ HOUSE



MGTKHMG101 - 1/64 KAIDO HOUSE GREDDY TENT V1



MGTKHMG165 - 1/64 NISSAN SKYLINE 2000GT-R
(KPGC10) KAIDO WORKS V1



MGTKHMG158 - 1/64 NISSAN SKYLINE GT-R (R34)
KAIDO WORKS (V2 AERO) SHINJUKU V2



MGTKHMG229 - 1/64 DATSUN 510 STREET
NISMO V3



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



GO SMALL-SCALE RACING WITH AO RACING'S SPIKE THE DRAGON BY SPARKY

The famous Le Mans 24 Hours needs no introduction and to anyone who follows modern endurance racing, either in Europe or in the USA, they will be equally *au fait* with the amazingly imaginative US-based AO Racing team. Racing in both the GT and LMP2 classes, we've reviewed AO's GT contender previously, exactly a year ago in fact, in the September 2024 issue. Remember REXY the green dinosaur Porsche?

AO Racing was founded in 2022, a collaboration between software entrepreneur PJ Hyett and successful sportscar driver Gunnar Jeannette. The AO part of the name comes from Autumn Oaks, the name of Hyett's car collection. After the success of its Porsche 911 GT3 RSR during the 2023 season, AO came back to Le Mans the following year with its purple LMP2 car, an Oreca 07 Gibson with bright yellow and orange wings, known as Spike the Dragon. Qualifying on the LMP2 pole position, Spike had a good race and finished the gruelling 24 hours second in the LMP2 Pro-Am class. He would go one better and win the LMP2 Pro-Am class during the 2025 race, so expect another release to commemorate that in a year's time!

The whole 'Spike' concept follows on very nicely from the fan-favourite REXY branding for the team's Porsche GT. Again, the car is largely devoid of sponsorship, giving nearly the whole bodywork over to the Spike look, with plenty of dragonesque details, from the flared nostrils on the nose to the yellow and orange wings to either side of the upper rear body. Look closely and you'll see that the whole purple body is detailed with scales!

Spark has produced Spike in both 1/43 (due very soon) and 1/64 scales – pardon the pun! Despite the diminutive model you see here, branded in its small-scale Sparky range, there is

SPARKY
Oreca 07 Gibson
#14 AO Racing
by TF Spike the
Dragon 2024 Le
Mans 24 Hours

SCALE: 1/64
PRICE: £16.99
REF: Y399

www.sparkmodel.com

RIGHT
Look closely and you'll see that the whole purple body is detailed with dragon scales!



ABOVE
The graphics are superbly executed, right down to the AO logos on the mirrors.

BELOW
Despite the diminutive model you see here (it is only 7cm long), there is still plenty of detail that Spark has managed to pick out.



ABOVE
Spike's yellow-edged orange wings stand out beautifully from the superb purple paint job.



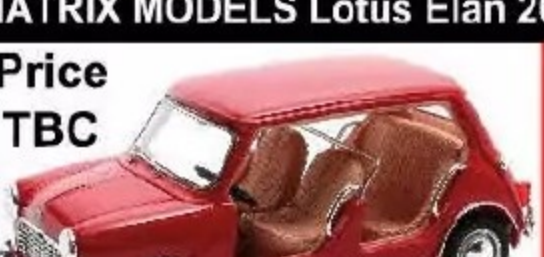
still plenty of detail that Spark has managed to pick out. Its Oreca 07 casting has been around for a few years now in largely unmodified form (thanks to very stable racing regulations to keep cost down) and the tooling is excellent. Spike is, of course, no exception and looks particularly attractive wearing the real Spike's colourful skin. And, at this price, it's great value too. ■



SPA CROFT MODELS
Trusted for over 40 years
Our Reputation is your Guarantee.
98, High Street, Tibshelf, Derbys. DE55 5NU
Tel: 01773 872780 Email: spacroft@aol.com

The Matrix MG is in high demand. Early ordering is recommended.
All models are checked before I post them to you.
Models are securely packed in approved postal boxes.

***Prices marked with an asterisk could be subject to exchange rate fluctuations**

 £89* Limited to 100	 £89* Limited to 100	 £89* Limited to 100
MATRIX MODELS 2003-2005 MG ZT-T 260 Estate; Blue, Silver or Green. Due 3rd Quarter 2025		
 £89* 100 only	 £89* 100 only	 £89* 100 only
MATRIX MODELS 1995-6 Jaguar XJS 4.0 Celebration Convertible. Available 3rd Quarter 2025		
 £89* 100 only	 £89* 100 only	 £89* 100 only
MATRIX MODELS 1971-5 Reliant Scimitar SE5A GTE. Orange, Blue, White. Available Quarter 3 2025		
 £85 Limited to 100	 £85 Limited to 100	 £85 Limited to 100
MATRIX MODELS Triumph TR6 Shooting Brake. Red, Blue and Yellow. Now Available		
 £89 Also no.128 Limited to 100	 £89 Limited to 100	 £93 Matrix Green or White
MATRIX MODELS Lotus Elan 26R. Le Mans Coupe NOW AVAILABLE 1934-5 Rover 12hp P1 Tourer		
 Price TBC	 Price TBC	 Price TBC
1962 Austin Mini Beach Car. Maroon, Blue or Beige (As loaned to Queen Elizabeth II). Available Q3.		
MANY OTHER MODELS AVAILABLE. GIVE ME A CALL. 01773 872780		
ALL MODELS ARE SENT ROYAL MAIL 1st CLASS TRACKED 24 (FREE UK)		
Models ordered before 2pm (Mon-Fri) are normally delivered the next day.		

British Heritage Models
(Tel: 01244 320761)




MATRIX: 2001-5 MGZT TOURER, METALLIC BLUE, SILVER, OR METALLIC GREEN. PRE-ORDER NOW!


MATRIX: 1995-96 JAGUAR XJS OPEN, "CELEBRATION" MODEL, TURQUOISE, RED, OR CLOSED DARK BLUE. PRE-ORDER NOW!

DUE IN! PRE-ORDER NOW!


MATRIX: 1971-75 SCIMITAR GTE, ORANGE, DARK BLUE (PRINCESS ANNE), OR WHITE

SEE THE FULL RANGE OF MATRIX MODELS TO ORDER AT WWW.BRITISHHERITAGEMODELS.CO.UK


MATRIX: 1962 AUSTIN MINI BEACH CAR, BURGUNDY, BEIGE (THE QUEEN) OR SKY BLUE

DUE IN! PRE-ORDER NOW!

ALL 1/43 MODELS: PRICE INCLUDES ROYAL MAIL 24-HOUR, SIGNED FOR DELIVERY


SOMERVILLE (PROMOD): 1982 AUSTIN MAESTRO POLICE CAR

MODELS ORDERED BEFORE 3.00PM NORMALLY DELIVERED THE NEXT DAY


CULT: 1979 AUSTIN PRINCESS 2200HLS, METALLICS: BLUE, BRONZE, OR GREEN

CULT SCALE MODELS 1:18 £174 EACH INCLUDES ROYAL MAIL 1ST CLASS, SIGNED FOR


CULT: 1937 RR 25/30 OPEN TOURER, G/NUTTING, MAROON/STEELS, OR GREEN/WIRES


ESVAL: 1933 FORD MODEL 40 OPEN, NEW YORK POLICE. BLUE


ESVAL: 1938 HUMBER SUPER SNIPE TAXI, WITH LUGGAGE


ESVAL: 1934-36 ADLER TRUMPH, VIENNA TAXI

UK P&P INCLUDED **www.britishheritagemodels.co.uk** **UK P&P INCLUDED**
2 Aln Road, Chester, CH2 4DY — Email: bhm-uk@talktalk.net

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



Est. 1958

Warwick & Warwick

Auctioneers and Valuers

01926 499 031

www.warwickandwarwick.com



Free Valuations

Our specialist valuers have a wealth of knowledge and are happy to provide free, no obligation valuations for collections large and small.

Sell Your Collection

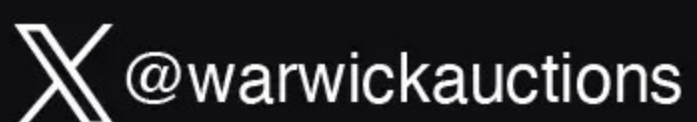
Our bi-monthly specialist online auctions attract bidders from around the world. Hosted by Easy Live Auction, we can help you achieve the best possible return. Private Treaty sales also considered.



Call us today!

If you are interested in buying or selling at auction, contact us today to speak to one of our friendly experts.

Warwick & Warwick Ltd, Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick, England, CV34 5DB
info@warwickandwarwick.com





NEW MODELS

**UNIVERSAL HOBBIES****Komatsu SK820-8 Skid-Steer Loader**

SCALE: 1/25 PRICE: €64

REF: UH8177

<https://webshop.komatsu.eu>

The first in a new series of big-scale models, fully packed with detail and realism, and with both bucket and pallet forks in the box.

**NEIB CO****Hyundai HX400 Tracked Excavator**

SCALE: 1/35 PRICE: €150

REF: M18-1019

www.hyundaishop.eu

Hyundai have an eclectic range of models, like this tracked excavator which has opening upper and side body panels and an opening cabin door.

**CONRAD****Sennebogen 5500G Starlifter Crane**

SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: €220

REF: 2748/0

www.sennebogen.com/shop

A brand new release which features all-new body tooling and additional mast and jib sections for an even more impressive crane once rigged.

**NZG****Wirtgen WR240x Soil Stabiliser**

SCALE: 1/50 PRICE: €142

REF: 1118

<https://shop.wirtgen-group.com>

With some subtle casting and colour differences over the previous edition. It has working steering of both axles, a sliding cabin and opening engine cover.

SUPER SLEEK AND STYLISH SOLIDO SILVIA

This Solido 1/18 Nissan Silvia S15 Spec R Aero captures the spirit of the late 90s Japanese coupé with flair. Released in vibrant colours like Flame Red, Aspen White, and Solido Works Green, this new model blends collectability with attention to detail.

Diecast metal with carefully integrated plastic parts, the result is a sturdy but lightweight model that resists wear while remaining display friendly. The directional wheels roll smoothly, and the front doors open cleanly, offering tactile satisfaction. Paint finishes are smooth and vibrant, with accurate badges and aerodynamic flourishes like the bold rear wing, side skirts, and bumper valances that punctuate the Spec R Aero styling. Panel fitment is generally strong, though as with most mid price models, you might notice minor mould line variance or slightly thick door window pillars.

While the interior isn't as finely detailed as some models, it does include realistic dash dials, seats, and soft touch tyres that enhance realism.

Overall, this Solido S15 brings excellent value for collectors seeking a 1/18 scale street tuned icon. Its pros include solid

SOLIDO**Nissan Silvia S15 Spec R Aero 1999**

PRICE: £54.99

SCALE: 1/18

REF: 0S1812203

www.solido.com

build, lively paint, functional detailing—and its price tag (around £50–60 / \$65–75) makes it accessible yet attractive. It's not flawless, but for a daily display model, it strikes a rewarding balance. If you're after ultra precise accuracy or engine bay detail, you may want to upgrade—but for most collectors, this S15 hits the sweet spot. ■



High Summer



Stephen Paul Hardy looks at Solido's take on 'work, rest & play' with its latest, very retro themed, Volkswagen T1 'Splitty' releases...

Solido first showed its newly modelled diecast 1/18 first generation (T1) Volkswagen type 2 pickup to journalists in the crazy semi-lockdown days of early 2021. Since then the casting has been released in several very successful variations and is now joined by a second body version of the T1 in the form of a gorgeous take on the Samba – more about which later – but first to work...

VOLKSWAGEN T1 PICK-UP – 1950 (S1806709)

Introduced in August 1952, to supplement the Van and Kombi launched in November 1949, the single cab type 2 pickup quickly became a very widely used, adaptable, commercial workhorse. As such it provides model manufacturers with almost unlimited scope for successive colour and livery variations in both contemporary commercial and retro custom guises. Opportunities already well explored by Solido and now extended by this latest head turning 'Ikea' variation.

No 'flat pack' self-assembly with this one though because, like all other Solido models, it comes ready for removing straight from the packaging and putting into the display cabinet! The base model has been covered previously – 'Endless Summer' (December 2021 issue) – so straight to the unique finish. With navy blue over golden yellow paintwork applied with commendably clean edges at the colour changes this one looks really good. Over printed logos and advertising script in correspondingly matched colours are very crisply applied further enhancing the overall charisma of the model. I can't help but feel that next time I am trapped in an Ikea store on a shopping trip I'm going to be distracted by looking for something in very visible brand packaging that will fit into the pick-up's load area (*typical of boys when bored out shopping!* - Ed). The model just absolutely demands that little light hearted aside whilst on display...

ABOVE
The latest version of Solido's 1/18 VW T1 pick-up (left) is joined by the superb new Samba casting (centre and right).



ABOVE
Totally fun: Solido's 'Flower Power' version from its new Cool Combi series of shortened VW T1 van plus trailer combos.



ABOVE
Although lighthearted the Cool Combi model's trailer is a head turning replica of the 1958 Westphalia "Wolfsburg" trailer.

VOLKSWAGEN T1 SAMBA – 1962 (S1813401 & 2)

Introduced in June 1951 to extend the previous year's Microbus range the Samba became an instant hit. With its additional windows at roof height and factory fitted Golde folding sun roof it became a firm favourite of hotels, tour and taxi operators notably in the South German, Austrian and Swiss Alpine regions. In North America Volkswagen marketing targeted it particularly in the role of a family orientated multi-purpose conveyance competing with the large contemporary 'Station Waggon' models from American home market manufacturers. Canadian and U.S. sales brochures promoted its family use adaptability ranging from school bus to ideal vacation transport.

Now there have already been innumerable scale models of the Samba released over the years including some large, expensive, contemporary examples so Solido have taken a gamble with this one. And it has paid off because here we have a brand-new casting, well detailed and nicely finished at very reasonable price. Arguably Solido have captured the very best period of German Samba production because its casting depicts a late series 23 window model. A change with deletion of the curved rear corner windows to create the 21 window model came for the 1964 model year through to the end of European Samba production for the 1967 model year necessitated by the introduction of a wider tailgate.

Introductory colour combinations of this very recently released gem are white over mid-blue (S1813401) and white over red (S1813401). Interior detailing is convincing and exterior detailing is excellent. This runs to many of the 'Lux' trim additions that helped make the Samba stand out in the crowd including the chromed VW front badging, additional bumper trims and waistline accenting. That Golde sunroof is depicted with a nice plastic inset part which, conceivably may at some time in the future be varied by a version depicting it in



ABOVE & RIGHT

In keeping with all Solido's current 1/18 diecast models both T1s include opening front doors allowing extra visual access to the interior details.

concertina style 'open' position.

Without a doubt this casting is going to be one of the most popular releases of high Summer for so many reasons. But a suggestion to Solido: it needs just one modest additional component to lift it from being an excellent model to an exceptional one. One of the most immediately noticeable idiosyncrasies of the Samba was a chrome luggage restraint frame visible through the fourth side window, corner windows and across the tailgate window. An addition that needs nothing more than a chrome plated plastic fence like component mounted onto the plastic interior rear load area. Oh ...and maybe for the third version a North American market version please with the additional tube reinforced bumper guard option front and back and white wall tires. Currently my heart has gone out to the white over red version but that could very easily be overshadowed by a turquoise tinted white over pastel turquoise U.S. market one!

An absolutely super model that is sure to delight serious collectors and mass market buyers alike. So, moving on and in much lighter vein...

Although, so far, Solido's depiction of the 'Splitty' hasn't run to a standard van version four new short wheelbase 'Cool Combi' derivations are coming.

THE COOL COMBI CLAN

Included in Solido's rebranded WORKS section of its 2025 catalogue these are very much in keeping with satisfying the "custom interest" sector of the market. With a base casting representing a shortened



ABOVE

Clean cut navy blue over golden yellow paintwork with excellent over printing of the Ikea livery all add up to a very charismatic release.



ABOVE

Excellent exterior detailing includes all the 'Lux' trim additions that helped make the Samba stand out in the crowd.

wheelbase T1 van each version also comes with trailer - and before you ask, yes, several such custom jobs have been made over the years in real life!

So far, the range comprises of four versions: 'Army Fighter' - 1950 (S1810901), 'Orange & White' - 1950 (S1810902), 'Black & Silver' - 2024 (S1810903) and finally 'Flower Power' - 2024 (S1810904). It is the latter I have to hand and have to say that it is really fun model that engenders a smile and a deja vu feeling that keeps prompting subconscious whispers of "Mystery Machine" and the ear worm replaying "Scooby-Dooby-Do!" on a loop.

With its attractive finish it is fresh, fun and no doubt will be a big seller on the mass-market plus undoubtedly appealing also to character, TV and film theme collectors. With the exception of some extra accessorisation on S1810903 all four version duos share the same casting with detailing varied by paint and livery colouring. There are however two serious aspects to these Cool Combi combos. Firstly looking past the vibrant paint finishes on them the wheels are very passable replicas of the five bolt rims manufactured by Lemmerz and Kronprinz being essential ingredients of the EMPI enhanced Californian custom styles. The second is that trailer which is another very passable representation this time of the 1958 'Wolfsburg' model being of one of the many, many, trailer styles over the years made by the well-known German firm Westphalia! ■



ABOVE

In late series 23 window guise Solido's Samba is an absolutely super model that is sure to delight serious collectors and mass market buyers alike.

R.M. Toys Ltd



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

Newton Abbot Train & Toy Fair 2025

**Adults £3
Children
FREE**



**The Race Course,
Newton Road,
Newton Abbot,
TQ12 3AF**



Open 10am - 3.00pm

Sunday 17th August

Sunday 16th November



• Over 50 stalls • Free parking • Refreshments

For further details contact Ray Heard

07717278420 **rayheard66@btinternet.com**



MAGUIRES Models

WSI Models



£155.00



£150.00



£180.00



£154.00

Tekno Models



£226.00



£155.00



£160.00



£160.00

For more information call **01242 820145 / 07772 895458**
or visit us at **www.maguiresmodels.co.uk**



OBERON AUCTIONS

Specialist Toy Auctioneers

Toys & collectables **wanted!**

At **Oberon**, we are toy and collectables **specialists**. Whether you're selling a lifelong collection or just a few cherished pieces, we provide a **trusted** and **seamless** selling experience.

Call today for a **free** valuation!

TEL:0113 513 3355

www.oberonauctions.com **info@oberonauctions.com**

DIECAST

COLLECTOR

COLLECTORS
MODEL SHOP

We've reviewed them... now you can buy them directly from us!
Simply complete and return the form below...



RRP
£49.95

Aviation 72 1/72 Westland Gazelle
XX450 Royal Marines
Ref: AV7224014 **Our Price: £45.00**



RRP
£58.99

Solido 1/18 Autobianchi A112 Mk.5
Abarth Green 1980
Ref: SOL1803806 **Our Price: £55.00**



RRP
£49.95

Aviation 72 1/72 Westland Gazelle
HT.3 XZ936 Empire Test Pilots School
Ref: AV7224017 **Our Price: £45.00**



RRP
£37.00

Britains 1/32 Ford TW35 with dual
rear wheels
Ref: BF43394 **Our Price: £37.00**



RRP
£39.99

Corgi Thunderbirds F.A.B. Collection
- Thunderbird 2 & 4
Ref: CC00804 **Our Price: £39.99**



RRP
£69.98

Aviation 72 1/72 Saab J35J Draken
Splinter Scheme
Ref: AV7241008 **Our Price: £65.00**

ALL MODELS COME WITH FREE POSTAGE AND PACKAGING!

Prefer to speak to our friendly UK-based team to place your order? Call us today on 01778 392006 or complete this form and return it to us at: Diecast Collector Model Shop, Warners Group Publications, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9PH

Title: First name: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

☐ Yes, I am happy to receive relevant special offers via post.

Tel: Email:

☐ Yes, I would like to receive the FREE Collecting email newsletter.

Please send me the following model (s) and I enclose a cheque made payable to Warners Group Publications

	Quantity	Unit price	Total
☐ Aviation 72 1/72 Westland Gazelle XX450 Royal Marines (AV7224014)		£45.00	
☐ Solido 1/18 Autobianchi A112 Mk.5 Abarth Green 1980 (SOL1803806)		£55.00	
☐ Aviation 72 1/72 Westland Gazelle HT.3 XZ936 Empire Test Pilots School (AV7224017)		£45.00	
☐ Britains 1/32 Ford TW35 with dual rear wheels (BF43394)		£37.00	
☐ Corgi Thunderbirds F.A.B. Collection - Thunderbird 2 & 4 (CC00804) PRE-ORDER		£39.99	
☐ Aviation 72 1/72 Saab J35J Draken Splinter Scheme (AV7241008) PRE-ORDER		£65.00	
Total Price			

Please allow up to 4 weeks for pre-order models to arrive. T&Cs apply. Available while stocks last. See <https://ccofigb.uk/terms> for details.

David's cars and other pastimes

David Wright looks back at his life of cars and driving, brings each to life, and shows us how they look in 1/43 scale!



ABOVE AND INSET RIGHT Morris Minor Series 2 - modelled by Lansdowne and Corgi.



ABOVE The real thing repainted with spray cans 1956



ABOVE Austin A55 - Lansdowne's monochrome Cambridge.



ABOVE Dad's posh car 1958.

Yes, it all started at the tender age of 18 when I'd just passed my test, albeit 2nd time around! I had gained all my practice on my father's very posh Austin A55 Cambridge, in old English White with a Royal Blue side stripe. The steering column change took a little practice too, but what a lovely car! Sadly, no original photo is available, and I certainly wasn't tampering with the lovely Lansdowne Models A55 in pale blue, so here is that model, as produced, to illustrate my driving apprenticeship.

On passing my test, my dear old Dad heard of a family friend who was trading up his 1947 Morris 8 for an Austin A30, and Dad jumped in and said he'd like to buy it for me! It was going to be free, but knowing Dad I wasn't surprised when I was asked to stump up £2.00. After all, one must learn the value of money!

That was 1965, but it wasn't until the 1980s that I discovered white metal kits, and bought this wonderful rendition of the Morris 8 by Western Models.

With half an oil can slung upside down under the sump to collect the leaking oil for re-use, that old car did me proud.

Inevitably I was keen to run a 'more modern' car so in 1970 I bought a 1954 Morris Minor Series 2 - the one with the Minor 1000 type grille and dashboard. I loved that car lavishing much time on it, including spray painting the body with dozens of cans of almond green paint. That love of paint cans has never left me, and to this day I've never used an air brush for modelling, preferring the quick and easy can that doesn't need

cleaning out!

This car was a 1956 model with the later grille, and amazingly this version is only available in model form by Corgi in their smaller scale budget range. I have featured the Lansdowne Minor Series II as well, as this is a charming and very accurate example, albeit the earlier version.

After I began my first job in 1967, I met a guy with a smart looking MGA 1500, which he seemed to love. It had had some bodywork repairs, and the oil pressure was a bit on the low side, but to ride in it was sheer pleasure. Committed to getting a sports car, I found an Austin Healey 100/6, which my father refused to stand assurance for as I was under 21!

So, I bought the MGA, filled the holes with perforated zinc and fibreglass, and ran it into the ground! Corgi Toys provided me with No.302 in their early blue boxed range, and it became an easy example of early repainting into my car's colour of black. This was one of the first models to be treated to the 'cars that I owned' line-up.

Now married and working I required a more conventional vehicle, so we invested in a MkI Ford Escort, in Sahara beige. A 1969 model, and not a lot more can be said about that, except that it was entirely possible to come to a stop, take the ignition





key out, walk away, and realise that the engine was still running! It did provide my wife and I with our 'going away' transport after our wedding in 1970, so it has a special place in our hearts. There are many really detailed models of the Escort Mk I, but I didn't have the heart to repaint them, so when more recently, Cararama issued a nice clean MkI, I treated it to a coat of Ford Sahara Beige! Around the same time, with Chris pregnant, it seemed like a good idea for her to be independently mobile, so in a moment of pure inspiration, our first BMW joined the fleet, in the form of an Isetta! What great fun it was for me to drive, with sun roof open, 40mph with a following wind, but no reverse gear, which did hamper the parking arrangements! With no fuel gauge either, the first warning of low fuel was the engine coughing, and the reserve tank was invoked by reaching behind for the lever! Sadly, Chris found the gear sprouting from the door card not easy to operate, and our little friend left us not long after. Immortalised with a repaint of Spot-On's excellent version, it now looks down on us from my cabinet!

This was followed by a brand new 4-door Escort, of which I was very proud, as it heralded the arrival of our first baby, and was often piled high with the necessary paraphernalia.

A profitable house move in 1972 then allowed me to treat myself to a Reliant Scimitar SE5a GTE - finally a nod to my sports car leanings. This car was ideal for a small family, with individually folding rear seats, so that one child could sit on one side, and the baby lay in the carrycot - no rear seat belts of course! The carrycot was removed easily through the back window. Hence another early addition to the line-up came from a Mikansue kit, purchased direct from Mike

ABOVE LEFT MGA 1500 - modelled by Corgi and the real thing with added ballast in the sills 1955.

ABOVE RIGHT Morris 8 Series E modelled by Western Models, along with the real thing... the £2.00 car in 1947.

RIGHT Reliant Scimitar GTE - ground breaking kit range modelled by Mikansue, Oxford Diecast and Pathfinder.



ABOVE BMW Isetta - modelled by Spot-On.

BELOW The real Ford Escort seen in 1970, which continued running with no ignition key!



Ford Escort - modelled by Cararama

Richardson at a Windsor Toy Fair. It makes up into a nice model, but to balance the display, I thought I'd add the later Pathfinder SE6 model, which is an excellent example of the wonderfully accurate proportions that all the Pathfinder range possessed, a tribute to their pattern makers.

However, my sporting ownership was to be short-lived, as the petrol shortages and then rationing in 1973 caused me to decide to sell this lovely but thirsty car, and for some strange reason, to purchase an Austin Allegro! Why, you may ask? Well, it was on the rebound wasn't it, and anything will do! It was perhaps by fortunate accident (forgive the pun) that when the car was in for a service, the garage managed to shunt it and damaged one set of side panels. The result - it was a write-off. Vanguards supplied me with a Harvest Gold example, so no need to do any work there!

With the present from the insurance company we bought one of our favourite cars, the diminutive 1st generation Honda Civic - you know, the one with the separate sidelight/indicator lamps sitting on the bumper. New in 1975, the lines and shape of this great little car have been captured well by Ebbro, who have created models of many Japanese cars of that era to great effect. This is, I think, the 2nd generation version. This little car would faithfully take our young family, complete with all the gear, to France on holiday. It performed faultlessly for 4 years, until I went, full of brand loyalty, to the Newton Motor Company in South London, major importers of Honda Cars, and purchased the director's Accord in 1978. Another great car, complete with genuine Webasto opening roof.

After a second Honda Accord, this time a 4-door, I



Austin Allegro as modelled by Corgi/Vanguard and the real thing (below)...the less said the better.



Honda Civic...what a cutie modelled by Ebbro.



RIGHT
1973 Triumph Dolomite-modelled by Corgi/Vanguard.

FAR RIGHT
Honda Accord as modelled by Diapet... the first of my posher cars in 1978.



ABOVE
Vauxhall Cavalier modelled by Gama.



ABOVE
Vauxhall Cavalier in saloon land, 1982.



ABOVE
Citroen BX modelled by Norev.



ABOVE
More saloon land with a "ford" challenging Citroen BX in 1987.



settled down at the beginning of the 1980s into the 4-door saloon era of my life, conceding that easy access for both children and grandparents was a necessity. A Vauxhall Cavalier was the order of the day. I well remember this car, brand new, sitting in my driveway, and one day during my ownership, my two sons came running into the house happily shouting "It's Ok Dad, we've locked it up!" When asked for the keys, they both ran upstairs and slammed their bedroom door. Fortunately, those were the days of the pull-up door lock buttons, and with the help of a friendly passing policeman, a family crisis was averted. With no Vauxhall Cavalier model available in that decade, I turned to the Opel Ascona made by Gama. My 1982 model Vauxhall was created, using factory paint, number plates brushed on by hand, and I was quite pleased with the result. I can do better now, and with hindsight, a lacquer coat would have been good.

The two Citroen BX saloons that followed were in 1985 and 1987, both delightfully reliable, and with a ride out of this world, being the last of the hydro-pneumatic suspension systems. The later car had a sunroof - I do like the fresh air, don't I? These were both re-created from Norev models, which are surprisingly lightweight, with thin plastic bases, but accurately reflecting the razor edge styling.

A Rover 216 joined our family in 1990. The real one was boringly reliable, and a good load carrier, but would never set the world alight, but is still featured here. Regrettably, no model exists of this car. By this time, around 1992, both our sons had flown the nest for university, and it was at last time to indulge. From the Weybridge garages of Robert Hughes came a lovely 1986 XJ6 Series III, in pristine condition. I cherished this car for 7 years, the longest I had owned a car, and



it felt so good to drive it. SMTS created a very accurate model of it after the only one available was the tiny little Herpa

rendition, so both adorn my showcase.

Throughout the previous 20 years, I had regularly attended toy fairs and swapmeets, collecting anything remotely sporting, ranging from Dinky Toys to white metal kits and tinplate. However, now with the Jaguar as my daily driver, I was at last able to indulge my hankering for a real sports car. With my friend John we concluded that a good entry level classic would be an MG Midget or Austin Healey Sprite. It was a Mk IV version of the latter that found its way to our garage. We stripped it to a shell, then it was welded and painted by a local coachworks, finally entering my ownership. An MG Midget was promptly obtained for us to invest our new found experience on next, this one for John.

My 1969 Sprite is well represented in my display case amongst all the other Healeys, although here it is exclusively represented by a K&R Replicas kit built by me to represent my exact car. The 1974 Round Wheel Arch (RWA) Midget we rebuilt for John is still, I believe only available from BTS as a model, and is resplendent here in its Citron colour!

So, approaching the Millenium, it was time for the Jag to find a less demanding home and lifestyle, so it was swapped for a Ford Focus Mk II! As many have said to me, it won't set the world alight, but it does what it says in the tin. A boot big enough to carry my toy fair boxes was an imperative, so after a few trouble free years, a second Focus Mk II was acquired, and the boot measured to ensure this was at least the same size. With its full size alloy wheel, it was in fact nearer half the depth, so I insisted on a space saver! Minichamps produced a nice Mk I Focus which, although in silver now adorns the 'My Cars' shelf.



Austin Healey Sprite - The red K&R Replicas is David's Sprite, and resin MG in Citron yellow is John's Midget.



ABOVE Jaguar XJ6, modelled by SMTS and Herpa. The height of luxury and power in 1992.



ABOVE Ford Focus - modelled by Minichamps.



ABOVE Jensen C-V8 Mk III beautifully modelled by Silas Models.



ABOVE MGA 1600 Mk II built from a kit from K&R Replicas. My much admired sexy sports car.



ABOVE Ford Transit minibus in the guise of the Storrington Village Minibus, modelled by Cararama 2007.



And so we arrive at present day, and this Focus is still with me as my daily hack. However, my ownership of the little Sprite was giving me a lust for something different, and retirement offered the opportunity to indulge yet again. This time it was my beloved Jensen C-V8 Mk III. I had watched one being restored 20 years before, and it had always sat there in the back of my mind. After a thorough search, my wife amazed me by saying, "Well if that's what you want, you'd better have it"! Trailered down from Banbury, it set up home in a sad lock-up a mile from my home. However, on our move to Storrington in 2007, at last it could live in a double garage with my Sprite.

My collaboration with Frederic Cros of Silas Models in Paris has been covered elsewhere (Diecast Collector, January 2014) but suffice to say I achieved the dream of all collectors - to have a model of my own classic car. It's a very high quality model, and pretty accurate, well, it should be after I saw a good few incarnations of it before it was released.

While the Jensen is going to be a keeper, I finally got bored with the Sprite, and traded up at a local classic car dealer for a 1961 MGA 1600 Mk II. This car has been the foil for the Jensen, and majors on the open top summer drives, while the Jensen is the show car. The MG drives well, without any modern adaptations such as 5-speed gear box, and I'm now a very happy and fortunate grandad!

K&R Replicas are the only maker to supply a 1600

Mk II version, with the BMC corporate sidelights, so this model was created from their kit by me.

Once settled into Storrington as our new home after 34 years in South London, I volunteered to drive the local community minibus. Now, there was an opportunity, I thought! Take a plain white Cararama Ford Transit, get some bespoke decals made up, and low and behold, another model for the special shelf! Surprisingly, the organisation was not really interested in running a promotional model, and I couldn't find any more Cararama versions anyway. However, the model featured will be a lasting memory of my service to our local community, and also looks good in the line up!

Stretching it a bit, I have included on my shelf my old Dad's Triumph Dolomite, as he cherished this car as a radical departure from all his other steady saloons. I'm convinced he was swayed towards its purchase by my acquisition of the Scimitar GTE, and when he visited us, he would proudly draw up outside our house, walk round the Dolomite, and await my praise when I came out to meet him.

So what is next? Well, I'm sublimely happy with my Jensen and my MGA, so my special cars are unlikely to change for some years. You reach a point, don't you, when that old phrase "If it ain't broke, don't mend it" comes along, and quite honestly, at 83,000 miles, my Ford Focus is still as good as when I bought it.

I think I'll stick to new model projects - much more rewarding! ■



Still a few more!

After last month's Part 2 of Safari Rally scale models, **Francisco Mota** brings the list up to date with a few more items to add to this collection.

Photos: João Carlos Oliveira

ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT
1977 Lancia Stratos HF,
driven by Munari, 1979
Datsun 160J Violet, the
first of four wins and 1978
Porsche 911 SC featuring
one of the best Martini
liveries, all models by
Spark.

Model manufacturers that pay attention to the story of the Safari Rally are always looking for entrants that used cars they've already reproduced as 1/43 models. One more colour livery, one more reference for their back catalogue and one more piece for collectors to purchase. To be fair, this is the logical thing to do, if a model maker wants to make some profit from a certain set of parts. From a special set of parts, to be more precise, as Safari Rally replicas almost always have parts that cannot be seen in conventional rallies. Specific "bull bars" to protect the front grille, several types of mesh to protect the radiator, plus searchlights placed near the exterior wing mirrors, are just some examples. Extra spare wheel on a roof rack, further protection on the rear panel and also handles and foot stands are other small, but fundamental, parts that a Safari Rally scale model car must have.

Of course, all these extra parts increase the model's planning and its construction. Many times, these

accessories need to be assembled with extreme care, otherwise they would simply look clumsy. That's probably the reason why there are not many 1/43 model makers launching Safari Rally models right now. Troféu, Spark and Ixo are the three manufacturers that have more Safari Rally scale models in their back catalogues and also in their regularly issued new releases lists. If you want to look for some of the past models, from the seventies to the nineties, you must also look at HPI Racing and Mirage sister brand. They are no longer producing, but they've issued some real "pearls" that deserve to be hunted in the internet.

For Part 3 of this series of features we look at some of the most recently released 1/43 scale models of cars used in the Safari Rally, both classic and new.

QUICK SERVICE

To begin with, we have a Japanese brand that won the Safari Rally, though not as far back as 1986, and not with this particular model. We're talking about the Subaru Leone 4WD RXT, a car entered in the group A category. It features the early Subaru livery



of white with yellow, grey and blue stripes. It is a much understated four door sedan by design, making it relatively easy to model. It features a bigger ground clearance than the standard car, to better resist African terrain, and four mud flaps. Wheels seem very close to the road car's but tyres replicate mud items. There are four extra spotlights of two different sizes and a bar to protect the front end. The car is also equipped with a pair of searchlights ahead of the side mirrors. The model looks tidy from the left side, but turn it around and you see that Spark decided to model it after some quick repair has been done to the rear window. There are generous portions of grey and red duct tape to keep the window in place. It looks original, one for the diorama specialists. Looking inside the cabin, we can see the front racing seats and steering wheel, plus extra instruments, extra rear lights and a complete roll bar. The car was driven by Kirkland/Nixon and entered by the Fuji Heavy Industries works team. It finished a very impressive sixth overall, ahead of the sister car and won the group A class.

GERMAN VERSUS ITALY

For the next pair we have two famous sports cars, both entered by the factory teams. In the German corner, the Porsche 911 SC from 1978, with what must be the best looking Martini livery ever. On the Italian corner, the Lancia Stratos HF, also with the iconic Alitalia colours. They are both heavily protected against the natural world, whether it's of



ABOVE Quick fix for a loose rear window, perfect for those who like dioramas. Several stretches of duct tape, grey and red were reproduced.

BELOW Subaru Leone 4WD RXT entered as part of a works team in 1986. A very basic car but very well reproduced.

the animal (strong bars in the font) or vegetable (mesh in front of headlamps) variety. The 911 SC features three big spotlights behind a sturdy bull bar. There is a pneumatic horn on the front bonnet and the bottom of the model is completely covered by a photoetched plate that goes up to the front bumper. Ride height is very tall, and there's a lot of air between the traditional Fuchs wheel rims, with Dunlop marked mud tyres, and the fenders. The windshield fixation is reinforced by metallic pieces. There's a searchlight by the co-driver's window, all extra lights have Cibié branded covers. The rear has double exhaust pipes, light yellow mud flaps and a blue bar around the rear bumper, plus a pair of handles on the roof. Inside the cockpit there's all the elements needed in a leading rally car. Driven by Waldegaard/Thorzelius it finished fourth overall, two





ABOVE

Coupés were also entered in the Safari. Here we have a pair of works entered ones, the 1978 Porsche 911 SC and the 1977 Lancia Stratos HF. Two very different concepts and two exquisite scale models.



LEFT

The rear of each model also has several details specifically made for the Safari Rally.

FAR LEFT

The front end features strong bull bars to protect each car from close encounters with wildlife.



ABOVE

Stratos HF Safari specs had specific narrow wheels, perfectly reproduced in the scale model.



ABOVE

Steel tubes around the rear bumper, used by the co-driver as a feet stands, while hands grabbed handles on the trunk lid. This increased weight on the rear driving wheels gave the car a little more traction.

places behind his team mate Preston Jr./Lyall.

Next to the Porsche, the diminutive Lancia Stratos HF that tackled the Safari Rally the year before. It features two strong tubular structures, front and rear to protect its fragile body. There's a spare wheel on the roof and narrow tyres with specific wheel rims. From the rear we can see the trademark wide mud flaps and different size exhaust pipes. Car number 7 was raced by legendary Italian driver Sandro Munari and finished third overall in one of the few rallies the Italian never won.

MULTIPLE WINNER

The Datsun 160J was not a competitive car, or team, in any World Rally Championship event, except one, the Safari Rally. It won Kenya's leg of the WRC four times in a row, from 1979 to 1982. In the two last seasons the car was renamed Nissan Violet GT. At the wheel, always the same pair of driver/co-driver Mehta/Doughty.

For this story we have the pair of 160J that won the first two editions for Nissan, the owner of Datsun. The car was a typical sedan in all respects. The livery is basically the same from one year to the next, combining red, white and blue, the colours used by racing Datsuns in the late seventies. The "problem" is that a lot of small stickers were applied on this

livery. Looking at both scale models side by side becomes something like "spot the differences".

What's common to both is the black mesh that covers all of the grille and headlamps and the pair of large spotlights at the front. Just below those, there's a bull bar in front of chromed bumpers. In the 1979 car, there are mud flaps under the indicators in horizontal position, the 1980 car has those front mud flaps in vertical position. Both cars have searchlights mounted on metallic supports, gold wheel rims and a vertical chromed stripe in the middle of the windshield. In the 1980 car, both "A" pillars are covered in black paint, presumably to avoid reflections. All regular mud flaps have the brand Datsun painted in white and both cars have a roof aerial, longer in the 1980 car. Rear lamps are of a different style, between both cars. The cabin is easy to see, through wide windows, and shows all the usual elements needed for a 1970s rally car.

GROUP A RULES

The year 1987 had great relevance for the immediate future of world rallying. The so-called group B "monsters" were outlawed and the secondary category, the group A of slightly transformed road cars, was now the top of the ladder. That change did not affect the



BELOW

The pair of Datsun 160 J Violet that won the Safari 1979 and 1980. The first two of four consecutive wins from Nissan in the toughest rally in the world.



ABOVE
Complex front protection in this Sierra with UK license plates. Great detail the four lights pod in this Troféu scale model.



ABOVE
VW's very simple front protection and front mud flaps painted blue. The rest of the standard GTI were also well reproduced by Ixo.



ABOVE
The rear wing has a very important function in a modern rally car and is perfectly reproduced here.



ABOVE
Narrow and relatively small wheel rims are necessary for the rough roads that had to be tackled by modern WRC cars.



ABOVE

A pair of 1987 very different two wheel drive cars. The Ford Sierra RS Cosworth and the VW Golf GTI, both entered under the group A rules, that were now the top of the ladder in the WRC.



reputation of the Safari Rally, it only made life even more difficult for works teams and drivers.

We brought a pair of such cars that entered the 1987 edition of the Safari Rally, however they could not be more different. One is a privately entered rear wheel drive, the other a works front wheel drive. Ford Sierra RS Cosworth against VW Golf GTI MKII, a very improbable fight. The Golf is an Ixo diecast made to perfect proportions. It comes with the mandatory narrow wheels and tyres, all with mud flaps behind and a relatively higher ground clearance. It also features a front bull bar with a blue painted mud flap at each corner. There are also searchlights each side of the windscreen and a roof antenna. The rear side is road car standard. The cabin features a white roll bar, black racing seats and safety belts, plus extra instruments. All the white and two shades of blue livery is typical VW Motorsport, it only misses the Marlboro logos on the rally plates, due to today's anti-tobacco laws. The pair Eriksson/Diekmann, did not get to the finish due to an engine issue. Their team-mates Weber/Feltz finished in fourth place.

If there's a more powerful car that we can imagine tackling Kenya's dirt track, that car would surely be the Ford Sierra RS Cosworth. This is a car made with racing tracks in mind, not "roads" with mud as high as the axles. Entered by the AAA Team, local drivers Hellier/Williamson used a UK registered car, probably a training car from the works team that also tried

that year's Safari. Number 19 was out of the event early on due to an electrical issue. The scale model is by Troféu and looks great in white, with just a few stickers. Rear wheel rims are wider than the fronts, a nice detail. There is what looks like feet stands attached to the rear bumper, but no handles, maybe the rear wing had enough strength for that purpose. Obviously, the most spectacular details is at the front. The four spotlight pods on top of the bonnet, and the complex bull bar, make this Cossie look different from others. Impeccable cabin details, as was expected.

TOYOTA SERIAL WINNER

The Safari Rally was out of the WRC calendar from 2003, due to several political issues. After it came back in 2021, only one car manufacturer has been able to win the event and that's Toyota.

French driver Sebastien Ogier and Finn Kalle Rovanperä won two editions each and last year it was Elfyn Evans time. The 2021 winning car was the Yaris WRC, while for the last four editions the Yaris Rally1, based on the new style road car came first. We have the winners from 2022 through 2024, this year's car has already been announced but not yet released. Between the 2022 and 2023 cars, the main difference is the shape of the rear wing. The 2022 car number 69, driven by youngsters Rovanperä/Halttunen still had the first generation of the Hybrid system. So it needed extra cooling, a reason why it features a snorkel each side of the car. From 2023, further evolution to the system meant a surface air scoop each side was enough. Another basic difference is that our 2022 replica is a diecast by Ixo, while the 2023 is a resincast by Spark. In the end, quality is surprisingly similar between these two techniques. The black 2024 Yaris features some differences, allowed from last year, like a snorkel for air admission to the engine, protecting against eventual crossing of water lines and excess dust. It goes from the bonnet, by the left roof "A" pillar to the rear of the air scoop for the cabin. The livery makes for a nice change from the white/red/black of previous seasons. Interestingly, the 2024 car also has side mirrors closer to the car's main body, to avoid being taken by the vegetation on the side of the road. Looking inside the small cockpit is not very easy, but with some patience a lot can be seen.

The Safari Rally is one of those collections that never ends. The first race was held in 1953 and called the East African Coronation Safari, celebrating the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. So, there are a lot of interesting cars left to be modelled. ■



ABOVE
Three of the five consecutive wins by Toyota, between 2021 and 2025. The black one in the middle features a special snorkel for the engine's air intake not to inhale water or dust.

The Beaulieu American and Custom Show

With contemporary and classic interpretations of “custom cars” very evident in current diecast model ranges **Stephen Paul Hardy** looked to a recent show at Beaulieu for insights, inspiration and a significant international unveiling.



ABOVE
The 'Andy Saunders Award' for best custom creation was presented by the man himself (right) to the creator of a traffic-stopping red 1937 Chevrolet.



ABOVE
Its not always about perfect paint jobs as this patina truck proved.



ABOVE
'Custom car' means different things to a lot of different people but no such show would be complete without a hot rod or two...

Ask a group of a dozen auto enthusiasts how they would each describe their interpretation of “custom car” and you are likely to get twelve different answers. Seek an established English Dictionary definition and you are likely to find one in British usage of something like “built to the buyer's own specifications.” More pragmatically this is, in reality, very often embodied as “modified to an owner's preferences and style”

If you went down to Beaulieu on Father's Day, 15th June, that latter loose definition was certainly very much in evidence in a kaleidoscope of gleaming chrome and dazzling paint jobs.

BIGGEST BEAULIEU CUSTOM AND AMERICAN SHOW YET!

Now a regular, very popular, slot in the calendar Beaulieu's Custom and American Show was the biggest yet with 500 custom and American motors on display and over 9,500 attendees enjoying this great family show.

The spectacular delivered more excitement than ever with famous cars from TV and film and special displays. Held in association with the Solent Renegades everything from classic Corvettes to muscly Mustangs were on display, along with a variety of unique custom cars and powerful bikes and trikes.

A highlight of the show for fans of the *Transformers* franchise was the impressive Transformers Display which showcased the Optimus Prime truck and Bumblebee car.

The Film & TV Display featured a selection of famous motors from the big screen with a line-up including the time-travelling DeLorean from *Back to the Future*, the racing Volkswagen Beetle Herbie and take on the iconic Mystery Machine from *Scooby-Doo*. Movie buffs admired the '74 Chevy Nova from *Pulp Fiction*, while 1980s fans were able to enjoy the sporty

'87 Chevrolet Corvette C4 from *The A-Team*. Also on display was a replica Lightning McQueen and Tow Mater from hit family film franchise, *Cars*.

CUSTOM CARS: PERSONALISED TO PERFECTION

The real core of the show however was the plethora of unique “one off” custom car creations which represented considerable dedication in preparation through many hours of patience and hard elbow work.

As always the event awards drew out some of the favourites including a striking orange 1959 Ford Pop Coupe that took 'People's Best in Show Award', as voted for by visitors. Show partners' 'Solent Renegades Choice Award' went to another 1959 Ford Pop in a gorgeous metalflake blue finish with striking red flamed bonnet paint job. The 'Brian Ackland Memorial Award' was presented by Brian's family in his memory and lasting impact on the custom car community to the owner of an eye catching 1961 Chrysler Newport Convertible.

Classic American magazine's heat for its 'Car of the Year' competition went to a stylish blue 1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1 and in doing so sent it forwards to the competition final at the Classic Motor Show in November.

Finally on the awards front the 'Andy Saunders Award' for best custom creation was presented to a traffic-stopping red 1937 Chevrolet.

THE SAUNDERS DIMENSION

One of the undoubted highlights and now almost customary (without pun intended) attractions of this annual event is the charismatic participation of Andy Saunders Kustoms.

Much respected and an amazingly gifted craftsman customiser Andy is well-known for showcasing his latest creations at Beaulieu events. Much of his



work has a deep historical research background to it (“Living the dream” October 2024 and “Modelling of a dream” November 2024 issues) and his latest build, with paint hardly dried in time for the event, is the latest in a line of internationally admired customisations of that sort. His customising work also includes three Guinness World Records: lowest car in the world 1987 and 2006 plus lowest van in the world 2008 (a record still stands).

It is at this point we come back to the subject of model cars and a specific collecting theme. Automotive manufacturers and design studios have long histories when it comes to constructing Show cars and Concept cars, both of which fall very much into the commercial side of the all embracing generic use of the term “custom car”. Vehicles that have inspired various diecast manufacturers models in the past and continue to do so in this era of sealed resin models from the likes of Matrix and (notably) AutoCult.

I would, therefore, love to see at some point in the future AutoCult model Andy Saunders’ latest creation unveiled to the world at the Beaulieu Custom and American Show on the 15th June...

DAROO 1/3

Originally designed by Dodge’s Bill Brownlie and



ABOVE The awesome handmade interior of Daroo 1/3 designed and custom made, effectively from scratch, in a matter of weeks against a fast looming deadline.

BELOW Andy Saunders and Daroo 1/3 very soon after its international unveiling at the show, together with glimpses of the myriad of custom details that he built into it.



ABOVE From the individual showgoers (top far left) through to the award winning cars (top centre to right), the themed displays (bottom far left to centre) and back to the individual displays (bottom far right) the show was a kaleidoscope of gleaming chrome and dazzling paint jobs.

brought to life by legendary customiser George Barris, the Dodge Daroo debuted on the 1967 show circuit. George Barris was a key player in the American Kustom Kulture scene originating out of California from his Kustom Shop in Los Angeles. Built on the new Dodge Dart Convertible platform and painted in eye-catching orange pearl, it was dubbed “The car that revolutionised the Hot Rod scene.” In 1968, it reappeared with updated styling, a two-tone candy green paint job, and a more refined look. It was presented at the 1969 Detroit Auto Show but then as so often happens with such creations vanished into history.

With only six surviving exterior photos and no technical documentation, Andy spent months fulfilling a long held ambition to recreate this forgotten legend. His version, named Daroo 1/3, reflects both versions of the original while adding a new chapter to its history.

Andy first teasingly hinted at this latest project starting of his Facebook page back in January with photos of a 1969 Dodge Dart convertible donor base vehicle. With the unveiling deadline closing in his posts throughout May and June became increasingly fraught and at times frenetic in their detailing of his many long hours in the workshop undertaking the extensive modifications including a substantial amount metalwork front and rear involved replicating the body lines that emphasised the name of the concept - Daroo means dart or spear. At the same time creating the ultra low look fly screen brought some testing last minute challenges right up to the eve of unveiling weekend. “All’s well that ends well” as the saying goes because the finished job really is a stunner and perfect example of “custom car” at its best. ■



Range Rover owner and enthusiast **Steve Coles** concludes his exploration of the models produced of the Range Rover Classic. This time, he focuses on those models larger than 1/43 scale.

ABOVE
These Corgi Range Rovers were produced between 1984 and 2000. Note the bonnet badges on the newer three plus number plate and painted bumpers on the New Avengers release (far right).



ABOVE
Steve's own Range Rover, seen here at his first classic car show in 2024, has inspired him to search out models of his childhood dream car.

RIGHT
Two Corgi releases from 1984. Both VSD and Darien Gap have intricate and detailed liveries but both should be seen on a two door Range Rover.

Our final instalment celebrating the 55th anniversary since the launch of the original Range Rover, manufactured from 1970 to 1995, finds us in the larger scale corner; for this feature that means anything larger than 1/43. Unlike the previous two parts I am going to work through these models in roughly size order.

CORGI

Corgi first launched their 1/36 Range Rover in 1984, five years after the 'Vigilant' version ceased production. Number 501 was the first of several releases that year. As well as the initial tan/brown colour scheme, there were three rally inspired liveries (VSD, Darien Gap, Team Castrol) and a 'Stimorol' chewing gum livery. Several emergency services liveries have been releases as well as AA and RAC colours. This casting is a good likeness of the early four door Range Rover, launched in 1981. Opening doors and the split tailgate add some nice play value while the rear lights are clear red, as (rather curiously) are the front side light/indicator units. The wheels are slightly bigger than the 1/36 wheels used on the cars of this time so look in proportion, even if they have the appearance of after-market off-road wheels from the 1970s! The only model produced before 1995 to feature correct black 'B' and 'C' pillars (the 'C' pillar was wrapped in black vinyl from 1973) was the Ruby



ABOVE
Dial Auto Models took the Corgi model and modified it to match the updated appearance of the 1986 Range Rover – the alloy wheels and front spoiler are most noticeable.



RIGHT

The profile of Matchbox's K164 Range Rover looks good, although the wheels are out of scale. The front and rear mud flaps can clearly be seen.



ABOVE

The rear of F38TOF shows the split tailgate. The rear pillars and upper tailgate should be black, as should the side window pillars.



ABOVE

The front spoiler of Matchbox's car is surprisingly accurate. The bull-bar is typical of those fitted in the 1980s.

FAR RIGHT

Bburago's casting has some nice detailing. This Darien Gap model is the wrong colour but the side stickers are reasonably accurate.



ABOVE

Two of the more realistic Majorette releases. Different interior and window/lights colour variations can be clearly seen.



ABOVE

The curious hole in the rear side window of the Majorette stems from the Sonic Alarm release, where a key was inserted to deactivate the alarm.



Anniversary model from 1988. Also included here is the limited edition 'updated' model from Dial Auto Models. Using the Ruby Anniversary as a starting point, Dial added the newer horizontal barred grille, newer bumpers and front spoiler, plus door mirrors and the three spoke alloys. It is just a real pity Corgi weren't able to replicate Dial's updates as they would have kept the model looking current and up-to-date well into the 1990s.

The standard casting has certainly earned its keep for Corgi though; fourteen of the twenty-four releases have been produced since Range Rover Classic production stopped in 1995. The more recent ones have included black window surrounds and 'C' pillar (except the all over orange RAC from 1999), neat Range Rover badging on the front and in the case of The New Avengers release from 2000, number plates as well as silver painted bumpers and wheels. There have been a number of police liveries since 1995 too, some have included quite complex liveries. All are still relatively easy to acquire, with the Avengers model among the most expensive.

MATCHBOX

By the late 1980s, Land Rover had added a horizontal slatted front grille and lower front spoiler to the Range Rover. These made Corgi's 1/36 look quite out of date. Matchbox duly filled this gap in 1989 with K164 and K165. Despite it appearing in the 1989 catalogue as a new model, it took most of the year before it appeared in shops. Modelled on a 1988 car, this not only features the spoiler and revised front grille but also the three spoke alloys and a huge front bull bar. The front doors open, with the door mirrors curiously cast as part of the interior, as well as the characteristic split tailgate. Rear mud flaps are cast as part of the plastic base – a nice detail from Matchbox. Both the blue (K164) and police (K165) versions share the same F38TOF number plate and have the rear 'C' pillar in body colour. Later releases all wear the same number plate, with the green farmer's version losing the Range Rover lettering front and back too. The final police version, with a wide orange side stripe, also has the window pillars and upper tailgate correctly painted black. Overall, a decent attempt at a later spec Range



Rover; but it is notably smaller than Corgi's example despite a claimed 1/36 too.

MAJORETTE

I discovered the Majorette 1/36 Range Rover long after it had been released, and it is a bit of a dark horse. Ok, so many of the liveries released are bright and feature garish graphics, but find a plain colour and you have a really nice late 1980s spec car; roughly the size and weight of Corgi's one but with the updated post-1986 style of the Matchbox. The opening doors even have window frames. The front headlights, indicator/side light and lower driving lamps are part of the glazing unit, so can be clear or tinted yellow. The wheels, whilst a bit generic looking, are nice and chunky. So far so good then. I do get the feeling that by the time it came to designing the rear, time (or money) ran out. No opening split tailgate, which as a Range Rover signature is a bit of an own goal here. The tail lights are simply a roughly cast outline. I was always curious as to why on both of mine the rear side window has a hole in it, and there were a curved 'grip' bracket cast into the roof of the glazing unit. Those features are from a range of 'alarmed' cars whereby a 'key' was inserted through the hole to deactivate the alarm. Once set, the car was 'safe'. If the alarm was triggered the siren would sound and the front lights and small round LEDs fitted in the rear lights would flash. Overall, a nice chunky model with more than a dozen different liveries available.

BBURAGO

Bburago came into existence in 1976 as a rename of



Two Whitebox releases showing both right and left hand drive interiors. Both wear incorrect door mirrors for a 1970 car.



Cult models 1990 Range Rover Vogue model, so far the only 1/18 scale model of any post-1972 Range Rover.



ABOVE This yellow Whitebox shows the correct single tailpipe exhaust fitted to the early Range Rovers.



ABOVE The red Whitebox correctly shows no rear wiper, but the fold down number-plate holder and 'by Land Rover' badge are nice details.



ABOVE The alloy wheels on the 1/18 Cult even have the correct centre caps with bright 'Range Rover' lettering.



ABOVE The interior of Cult's model looks identical to Steve's own Range Rover, complete with walnut trim and cruise control buttons on the wheel.



The rear of Cult's 1/18 shows the correct twin exhausts for 1990 plus the accurate heating element detail. Less accurate is the Vogue SE badge.

the Martoys company that began two years earlier in Milan, Italy. Martoys had introduced a Range Rover model into their midsize 1/24 range in 1975 that featured opening doors, bonnet and the split tailgate. Overall, the shape of this Range Rover looks good; with nicely cast in name badges on the tailgate and on the front wings. There is even a small 'by Land-Rover' oval cast into the lower part of the tailgate. The headlights are clear discs while the other lights are clear coloured plastic; yellow for the front sidelights/ indicators and an almost luminous orange at the rear. There have been many different liveries produced over the years; this casting was still being produced twenty years later. My example seen here represents one of the famous Darien Gap Range Rovers that took part in the British Trans-Americas Expedition during 1971-72. Although if you are familiar with those cars, you will immediately notice this one is not dark blue and white but a shade of something that could be mistaken for Bahama Gold. The early Martoys branded examples are rarer and therefore usually more expensive than the more readily available Bburago ones.

WHITEBOX

As with many Whitebox releases, the appearance of a new tooling starts in a part-work series before making it into their own range. These 1/24 Range Rovers followed this pattern. Based on a 1970 Range Rover they certainly look good. Good choices of paint colour, with body coloured rear pillars, well cast wheels and some really neat badging. Curiously, both my examples, a left hand drive yellow part-work and right hand drive red Whitebox release have right hand drive wipers. The red and green releases have, correctly,



Yat Ming's 1/24 Japanese Spec car has a good level of detail, including accurate front spoiler and headlamp washers.

the wheels finished in Sahara Dust. The green is also right hand drive and wears a UK registration plate where the red wears the sort of 'Range Rover' plate that might be fitted in a showroom or motor show. Interior detail is great, with the correct pattern seats, the ashtray and the steering wheel all stand out. My only grumble with my two examples are the door mirrors that have been fitted, something that wasn't available until 1977. The green release does however have correct bonnet mounted circular mirrors.

YAT MING ROAD LEGENDS

An interesting companion to the Whitebox 1970 models is this post 1991-spec 1/24 from Yat Ming. My example here is finished in a shade of deep metallic green and looks really classy. Apart from the chromed wheels being too bright, the appearance of this looks really good. It is based on Japanese spec car and as such it wears chrome bumpers front and rear as well as front wing and lower tailgate mounted V8 badges and a third high level brake light. Right hand drive wipers, cast into the front screen, are paired rather curiously with left hand drive interior. That interior, however, is well detailed despite all being a single colour bar the accurate two spoke steering wheel in black and a smattering of wooden trim stickers. The Range Rover lettering is well done, as is the front grille Land Rover oval badge. Niggles? The window and rear pillars should be black but the dark colour manages to hide this omission, certainly better than the silver release that can be found. A little extra detailing, silver in the side rubbing strips and door handles, would give it boost when viewed side on. Overall though, a really pleasing addition to my collection.



LEFT A trio of blue Range Rovers in 1/36, from left to right; Matchbox, Majorette and Corgi. The Matchbox being slightly smaller.



ABOVE The interior of Almost Real's Darien Gap model shows the single rear seat, complete with headrest and safety belts.



LEFT Even the straps holding the roof ladders in place look realistic. These Swiss spec cars had safety covers fitted over the bonnet hinges.

FAR LEFT When viewed close up, this interior could be mistaken for the real thing. This one even has the extra equipment needed for the Darien Gap expedition.

CULT

Cult models have developed a reputation for producing high quality and accurate models manufactured in resin to 1/18 scale. They have produced five colours of their Range Rover classic, one of which is metallic blue which pretty much matches the Plymouth Blue of my real 1:1 Range Rover. Labelled as a 1990 Vogue, first impressions are great. The shape is good, the detailing is superb, especially the interior. It features the correct position fuel filler flap and steel sunroof of the pre-1991 Range Rovers. Whilst it wears the correct grey three spoke alloy wheels of the Vogue spec, it has been rather curiously badged as a Vogue SE. It has what appears to be Vogue SE leather seats and the walnut dash trim of the Vogue SE too. This might be me nit-picking at small details, but for the cost of these models I must admit I would have expected a little more accuracy. It is, however, the only 1/18 scale model of any post 1972 Range Rover that has been produced to date, and for that I for one am certainly very grateful.

ALMOST REAL

The final models here are by Almost Real. Just as with their 1/43 models covered last month, they have produced Bahama Gold, Tuscan Blue, Lincoln Green and Davos White road versions, plus two Darien Gap (in clean and dirty versions) and Camel Trophy (in clean and dirty versions). And as last month I referred to the amount of detail on their 1/43 models would make many 1/18 manufacturers weep; these 1/18s really are on another level. My Darien Gap model of VXC868K is fitted with a full complement of opening features. The bonnet opens, and is held open by an accurate stay. Once open, the 3.5 V8 engine

can be fully admired, complete with wiring and pipe work. The doors open and close with a satisfying 'click', revealing an interior packed with detail. On the Darien Gap model, separate seat belts are on all 3 seats, with twin belts on the single rear seat being immediately noticeable. The road cars correctly just feature front seat belts; even the anchors on the seat bases look real. Even the flooring that is fitted is a 'soft feel' fabric material. The air vents, so well done on the Almost Real 1:43 model, have an increased sense of realism at this scale. Additional dials and gauges are fitted across the dashboard of my Darien Gap version which look really neat. Round the back, the split tailgate opens with a smooth realism; the tailgate struts look and operate in exactly the same way as they do on my real Range Rover, as do the lower hinges. Just like its 1/43 cousin, the price to pay for such realism is high. Mine was a 'once in a lifetime' type purchase, but such is the level of detail it really does live up to the name 'Almost Real'.

And there we have it, a celebration of toys and models of the iconic Range Rover Classic. Land Rover have, over the years, produced special edition cars to celebrate or acknowledge a number of different anniversaries. In 2020/2021 a special edition simply called 'Fifty' was produced to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the launch of the original Range Rover. Rather fittingly 1,970 cars were produced worldwide, all based on the Autobiography spec. As well as selected regular colours, it was possible to specify a 'heritage colour'; with a choice of Tuscan Blue, Bahama Gold or Davos White. I'm including this here as I have found some nice 1/64 models of these Fifty editions in Tuscan Blue and Bahama Gold which brings the story up-to-date and seems a fitting way to end this three-part feature. ■



ABOVE Two 1/64 Range Rover Fifty limited editions by Enchery. The real special edition cars from 2020 could be specified in Bahama Gold or Tuscan Blue as a nod to the 1970 original.



Happy 50th birthday!

In which **Ann Evans** goes to visit Coventry Diecast Model Club as it marks its anniversary with a party and special model release...

RIGHT
The founder members of the club.



ABOVE
The oldest member, octogenarian Will Roe, and the youngest member at 37, Imran Ali.



ABOVE
Founder member Paul Kennelly.

It was an evening of celebration for the Coventry Diecast Model Club (CDMC) on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. Founded in 1975, the members had a special celebration meeting in their usual venue of the Midland Air Museum at Baginton, on the outskirts of Coventry.

In the CDMC's heyday it had around 300 members, a number which has dwindled over the years to around 34. Nevertheless, the majority of these collectors and modellers descended on the museum all in great spirits and eager to talk about the fun they've all had in the past with outings, socials, toy fairs and the whole social scene that has created many long-lasting friendships amongst the members.

Many of the members had brought along some of their special models, all with stories relating to them, plus there was an anniversary cake and some non-alcoholic fizz to enjoy.

Chairman Mick 'Mixxie' Russell opened the event, welcoming everyone and jokingly saying he was 'conned' into joining the club in 1997! Nevertheless, he went on to become Chairman. He commented: "It's an absolute pleasure being a member of this club and being Chairman – and getting to know you guys, with all the knowledge you have got."

He then invited one of the co-founders to come up and say a few words. Travelling up from their home in Wales, the club's co-founders, are husband and wife Paul and Hilary Kennelly. Many readers will recall their toy museum in Wales – the West Wales Museum of Childhood and prior to that, their toy and model shop, The Time Machine in Coventry.

Paul talked about how the CDMC came to be fifty years ago in 1975. He recalled that at the time there was only a handful of collectors' clubs around – Maidenhead had been established, so the Coventry Diecast Model Club became the second oldest toy collectors' club in the UK. There were however many model railway clubs to be found, and



the interest in toys as collector's items was growing.

As early as 1970 Paul enjoyed rummaging around old toy shops, in particular his local paper shop, Highway News on the Kenpas Highway. The owner allowed him to explore the stock room where he found a hoard of forgotten mint boxed Dinky and Corgi toys which he could take his pick from as a 'weekly treat'.

"These were halcyon days, when the hobby of diecast model collecting was for many, a secretive pastime," said Paul. "As there was no organised club in the town, information seldom passed between collectors and if you found a hoard, you could pick it clean over a matter of weeks with the knowledge that no one else would be the slightest bit interested in these baby toys."

Paul's wife Hilary is also a keen collector, with her special interest being in dolls, teddies and dolls



ABOVE The club model marking its 50th anniversary. Credit: Coventry Diecast Collectors' Club

LEFT Admiring some of the items brought along by club members.



ABOVE The celebration cake was soon devoured!

houses. Paul's interest in collecting really took off when in 1974 a branch of Birmingham company Wyatt and Tizard opened in Coventry. There, they met another toy enthusiast, Ray Turley who went on help establish the Coventry Diecast Model Club.

Through sharing the occasional table at an antique fair, other enthusiasts got involved such as Steve Flowers and Roland Parry, and then at a travelling model railway exhibition held on Hearsal Common they met the Astley family who also joined their collector's circle. Working together this little band of enthusiasts became the nucleus of the Coventry Diecast Model Club.

By-monthly meetings were held in Paul and Hilary's home, where fifty pence was collected towards club funds. They alternated the venue between their home and Bill Astley's. Their very first toy fair was held at the old community centre

in Finham, Coventry, on Valentine's Day 1976 with 435 people turning up.

Roger Bailey and his parents – massive bus enthusiasts, joined in 1975 and for a number of years mum Maureen was club secretary. Roger was one of the speakers at the 50th celebrations. Many people will know him as the author of a number of books on buses – the real thing and collectables.

One of the things Roger said was: "I was the 201st member, and we had amazing times – going to toy fairs, The Time Machine and trips out. I loved these times. The club was family."

The club went from strength to strength, arranging speakers, going on trips to toy museums and relevant manufacturers. In 1978 they issued their first CDMC promotional models – 100 Corgi LT Routemasters. The first of many special anniversary models that members could add to their collections. This anniversary year they had produced a new model – the Daimler SP250.

The CDMC has published a club newsletter from the beginning, settling on the name *Wheelspin*. Popular club member Will Roe has been instrumental in the newsletter's success, with his skills in writing, editing, art and technical design. As well as being editor of *Wheelspin* for many years Will has also been Vice President and President at various times. In recent times Will has started to produce *Wheelspin* as a digital magazine, with the current editor being Maz Woolley.

In 1986 the CDMC ran a members' competition to design a badge for the club, which was won by Hilary Kennelly. Her design featured Coventry's famous three spires, also a car on an open hand which represents the city's long association with the car manufacturing industry, as well as a reference to the club's interest in miniature vehicles. The badge is worn with pride by its members and also became the club's logo used on its literature and often on promotional models.

A year earlier the club acquired the motto "The Friendly One" which originated from swapmeet reports. Over the years the club continued attending and hosting events, fairs and roadshows; there were countless outings to museums, companies and shows, competitions were run, promotional models issued, and a lot of social events enjoyed.

The club's first President was Peter Lee appointed in March 1989. And over the first 20 years the club changed its meeting venue a number of times but has been at its present home of the fascinating Midland Air Museum since 1996.

The 50th anniversary celebrations were enjoyed and after all the speeches were concluded, it was a glass of non-alcoholic fizz and a slice of anniversary cake, and time for everyone to mingle and share their own stories and memories and plan future events for the years to come. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION:

The CDMC meet at the Midland Air Museum, address Baginton on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome.

Further details at: www.midlandairmuseum.co.uk



Ford Mustang Boss 302

In which **Steve Coles** compares models of the same car... but in a variety of differing sizes and scales!

This month's *Little and Large* is returning to the 1990s and once again dips its toe into cars from my childhood; please welcome the bright yellow 1970 Ford Mustang Boss 302.

I've always had a soft spot for certain American muscle cars but I will be the first to admit the 1970 era Mustang is not one of my favourites. The original 'pony car' was introduced in 1964 and became an instant sales success selling over 400,000 in the first year of sales alone. Numerous engine and body style options gave it a true mass-market appeal. A facelift in 1967 made the Mustang physically bigger, although engine power outputs remained the same. 1969 added yet more length and width (and therefore weight) but now there were some new performance orientated models added to the range. The Boss 302 and Boss 429 were both introduced in 1969 in order to homologate their engines for use in competition. The Boss 302 featuring a 4.9 litre V8 designed for the American Trans-Am racing series while the Boss 429 had a massive 7.0 litre V8 designed for NASCAR

racing. For 1970 Ford removed the outer headlights and replaced them with vents in an attempt to tone down the more extreme aggressive styling of the '69 update. They also added the characteristic 'hockey stick' side stripes to the Boss 302. Both Boss models were discontinued for the 1971 model year having achieved homologation for their respective racing series'.

Despite my slightly indifferent feeling towards this era of Mustang in general, the Boss models (as well as the Mach 1) do appeal to me. The first time I saw Ertl's 1/18 Boss 302 in 'authentic Grabber Yellow' I wanted one. Imagine my delight when, a few months later, I unwrapped one for my birthday. The first thing I remember about unpacking this model was just how heavy it was. The bloated body of the 1970 Mustang has been well captured, along with the rear window louvres. The front grille and headlights are nice separate parts, as is the front bib spoiler and rear wing. Opening doors, complete with separate chrome handles, and bonnet, the norm at the time for many 1/18 diecasts, reveal a wealth of lovely details. Under the bonnet, of

ABOVE Both models can boast an opening bonnet, allowing a view of the mighty V8 power plant.



ABOVE The rear spoiler of the 1/64 Johnny Lightning is part of the rear panel, creating this unusual black part where the Mustang badge should be.

RIGHT When viewed head-on the extra vents alongside the headlights are clearly visible. Headlights are out of scale on both models.

FAR RIGHT The smaller Johnny Lightening looks too narrow and tall, especially when viewed from the rear. The Ertl sits lower and more squat like.



ABOVE Whilst quite crude looking, the engine of the smaller model does, at least, have the large air filter sat on top.



ABOVE The 302 cubic inch V8, complete with correct blue air filter and orange 'caution - fan' label almost looks lost under the bonnet of the Ertl.



ABOVE The 'Rostyle' wheels and white lettered tyres, so typical of muscle cars, have been included by Ertl.



ABOVE The wheels on the smaller model look oversize... and are oversize. They make the car ride far too high.

RIGHT The distinctive profile shape of the 1970 Mustang has been well captured by both manufacturers.



course, is the glorious 302 cubic inch V8 engine. The blue air filter is the first thing you notice but look a little deeper and you'll spot the twin horns, exhaust manifolds and even an orange 'caution - fan' label on top of the radiator fan.

Inside those big opening doors, the dashboard has lovely brown inlays to simulate the 'wood' trim and deeply set instruments, which are visible if you can peer in at the right angle! The T-bar gear selector is chromed and stands out nicely among the sea of black, which also includes the steering wheel. The wheel itself has the correct three spokes but appears too flat and would benefit from a touch of chrome around the inside of the hollow spokes. The door cards, whilst also black, do have nicely detailed elements such as the door-pull/armrest moulded into them.

This model dates from the early 1990s and there are some tell-tale signs of its age. Outside, the windscreen wipers are there, but merely cast in and not as a separate part unlike some Bburago 1/18 from the same era. They aren't even painted to pick them out. The air vents alongside the headlights are nicely cast but would benefit from a blackwash inside them. Round the back has a finely printed 'MUSTANG' badge but the inset rear lights are just too deep, making the red almost impossible to see. Small grumbles maybe, but at 1/18 I kind of expect more!

Paired with this, and at the other end of the size spectrum, is my Johnny Lightning 1/64 Boss 302. This was my first Johnny Lightning car and produced in 1994, so well before the current explosion in highly detailed 1/64 diecasts. But for such a small scale and for its age, I am impressed with the general level of detail. It's a small, fun

little thing that generally captures the look of the Boss 302 well. Like the Ertl (and the real thing!), it's also heavy, boasting an unpainted metal base (remember when Matchbox used to do that?). The characteristic 'hockey stick' side stripes look good and crisp. I like the small bullet type door mirrors on both and despite being a lot smaller, the opening bonnet on this 1/64 reveals something that looks very similar to the 302 cubic inch V8 in the Ertl.

Where it shows its age and more toy orientated roots is in the proportions. It is simply too high and too thin. The view from the rear makes it look most awkward. The spoiler and rear panel are all part of the same piece, meaning the edge of the tailgate is also black, instead of correctly yellow. The rear lights look odd too; the outside of the recessed oblongs have been picked out in red while the inner part (that should be red) has been left black. Then there's the wheels. Whilst not the 'Rostyle' wheels of the real thing (and the Ertl) they do look like a cross between the sort of period wheels you might find on a muscle car and the Fuchs wheels of the Porsche 911. The trouble with the wheels on this car is that they are just too big, making the whole car ride too high.

So there we have it; a pair of bright yellow cars from the early 1990s. Both I would say are clearly products of their time and have a number of areas that these days would not be accepted by many collectors. Indeed, if they were a TV programme, they might even come with some sort of trigger warning! However, am I nit-picking here? Maybe. Do they look good together? Definitely. Would I want to swap, improve or 'modernise' them? Absolutely not! ■





Matchbox Jaguar - the E-Type

Paul Brent Adams compares variations of everyone's favourite classic car.

In 1961 the long-running Jaguar XK sports car was finally replaced by a new design – the E-Type. It was an immediate hit with model companies, and numerous versions appeared. It has remained a popular subject ever since, with Matchbox having produced two models in the miniatures line; and a larger scale version in the Dinky Collection. Usually when Matchbox make several models of a single subject, they like to produce a different version each time – but here they have modelled the same basic variant – the 1961 Coupe.

THE REAL THING

The two-seater coupe and convertible versions of the E-Type were introduced in 1961. In 1965 a larger engine was fitted, and in 1966 a slightly longer four-seat version of the coupe appeared. This was built alongside the existing two-seat coupe. These early cars would become known as Series 1 models, and were produced until 1968. The Series 2 model was built between 1968 and 1971, still in three versions. In 1971 the Series 3 appeared with a V12 engine, and this lasted until the end of E-Type production in 1975. The Series 3 was built only as a two-seater convertible, or as a four-seater coupe, the two-seat coupe being dropped. Given the sales success of the XK series in the US, the E-Type was known as the

XKE in America. The E-Type was extensively used for racing, and also has had a long and distinguished movie career.

THE MODELS

• No.32 "E" Type Jaguar (Coupe)

Just as the real Jaguar E-type replaced the XK, the Matchbox E-Type replaced the XK140 Coupe in the 1-75 line. The E-Type appeared in 1962, and was given the same catalogue number as its predecessor, No.32. It was normal at this time for the same number to be used for succeeding generations of the same make, or the same type of model, such as an ambulance. To collectors this model is commonly known as No.32b. Matchbox were constantly improving their models, and after nearly a decade of production, and over a hundred different models, the Jaguar shows this to perfection. The model is a little larger than the XK140. The body is metal, although surface details such as the doors, rear hatch, and headlights are still indicated by raised lines. The bumpers are part of the main casting, and there is no indication of the bonnet lines, although the raised centre bulge is more clearly defined than on the later model. There are 13 bonnet louvres per side – the real thing actually has 14. The body tapers noticeably towards the rear. There are no opening parts. It has

ABOVE A pair of Matchbox Jaguar E-Type coupes - forty-four years separate these two models, each being typical of its era.



ABOVE The door shut lines and headlights are indicated by raised lines on the earlier model, and by recessed lines on the newer version. The latter also has the fuel filler port indicated on the left side - a feature not seen on the original.

RIGHT The newer model is larger, and chunkier than the original. The bonnet shut lines are also indicated by recessed lines - they were not represented at all on the original.



ABOVE The wire wheels on the original Matchbox Jaguar are beautifully executed, seen here fitted with grey plastic tyres.

RIGHT The bulge in the centre of the bonnet is sharper on the original, and more pointed. Headlights were only indicated by raised outlines; on the newer model they are tampo printed in black, white, and silver.

FAR RIGHT The ribs on the floor of the rear hatch are much finer on the 1962 model, and are not obvious in this shot, but they are there. On the 2006 model they are much more prominent.



ABOVE The '61 Jaguar E-Type Coupe on its card - note the lack of quotation marks on the modern version. This yellow model dates from 2009.



windows, either clear or with a green tint; and a moulded plastic interior in light cream, with Right Hand Drive, and a spoked steering wheel. The model also features beautifully detailed wire wheels. The tyres could be either grey or black plastic.

The E-Type was only available in metallic red; towards the end of production the shade varied to what is usually described as metallic bronze or bronze-red. By now there was no additional detail painting. The baseplate is metal, painted black, and marked "E" Type Jaguar, Made in England, by Lesney, all in the centre of the model and No.32 under the nose, just ahead of the front rivet (all in capital letters). While the model was described as an "E" Type (double quotation marks) on the baseplate, the box said 'E' Type (single quotation marks). Scale was given in the catalogue as 1/65. The E-Type was replaced as No.32 in 1968 with the Leyland Petrol Tanker, even though real Jaguars were still coming off the production line.

• MB688 1961 Jaguar E-Type Coupe

Matchbox began producing models of older 'classic' vehicles in the 1-75 series in the late 1970s, but it was not until 2006 that a new version of the Jaguar E-Type appeared. This was again a Series 1 coupe, but the new model was slightly larger than before, it was much wider, and there was no body taper. As before, there are no moving parts. The model is of mixed metal and plastic construction. The upper body is metal, with a plastic base. This is always the same

colour as the body, as the front and rear portions of the bodywork below the bumpers are plastic, and are actually part of the base. Trapped between the metal body and plastic base is a chrome interior, which also forms the front and rear bumpers, and the centre bar of the radiator. This time the model has Left Hand Drive, although the steering wheel is now a solid disc. The doors and rear hatch are indicated by recessed lines, as is the bonnet. The centre bulge is less sharp than before, with just ten louvres per side - far less than on a real Jaguar. Clear windows are fitted, with moulded windscreen wipers. Tampo printing includes the front number plate; the rear plate which reads JAGUAR; headlights; and taillights in red and orange. A variety of different wheels were fitted over the years, the most common being a three-spoke design.

The plastic base carries both the Matchbox and Mattel names, the copyright date 2005, country of manufacture (which is now Thailand), model number MB688, a scale of 1/61 and the model name 1961 Jaguar E-type Coupe, in a mix of upper and lower case letters, without quotation marks. There is also some basic underside detail.

This model has been included in the standard Matchbox toy line as a single model on a card; in various boxed 5-packs and 10-packs; and in several premium lines, including Superfast, Best of British, Lesney, and a 60th Anniversary series. These come on a card, with an old-style cardboard box and either a plastic or metal base. Regular model colours have included red, beige, metallic blue, light green, white, light blue, charcoal grey, yellow, metallic light blue, metallic red, and orange. The premium models have appeared in black, gold, white, silver, and metallic dark green. These have mostly been solid colours, but there have also been a few racing versions, with nose to tail stripes, and race numbers. ■

MATCHBOX E-TYPE JAGUARS 1962-2006						
	Year	Length	Width	Height	Weight	Scale
No.32 E-Type Coupe	1962	66mm	26mm	19mm	26g	1/65
MB688 E-Type Coupe	2006	72mm	30mm	21mm	34g	1/61
Note: premium versions of MB688 with metal baseplates will be heavier.						



Jarrold Cotter looks at the story behind one of Corgi's new releases to the 2025 range, P-51D Mustang Jersey Jerk in 1/72 scale

Part of the 2025 Corgi Aviation Archive new releases sees a 1/72 scale North American P-51D Mustang finished as 44-15152 'QI-T' Jersey Jerk of the 361st Fighter Squadron, 356th Fighter Group, 8th US Army Air Force. This aircraft was the personal mount of 'Ace' pilot Major Donald J. Strait.

356TH FIGHTER GROUP

The 356th Fighter Group of the US Army Air Force was formed in Georgia in the United States on December 8, 1942 and consisted of three squadrons, the 359th FS, the 360th FS and the 361st FS. They were despatched to England on the Queen Elizabeth in the autumn of 1943 and were first based at Goxhill in Lincolnshire, where they received their first aircraft, the Republic P-47 Thunderbolt.

The unit moved to Martlesham Heath, Suffolk, in October 1943. From then until early January 1944 the 356th FG aircraft were used to escort Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses and Consolidated B-24 Liberators on their daylight raids over occupied

Europe. The USAAF bomber crews of the time named their fighter escorts their 'Little Friends'.

In November 1944 the unit's P-47s were replaced by the P-51 Mustang. Later in the war their role changed to bombing and strafing missions. The group was colloquially referred to as the 'Martlesham Playboys' or, perhaps more understandably due to its markings, the 'Blue Diamonds'.

Victory in Europe was declared on May 7, 1945 and the 356th Fighter Group left for New Jersey that same month. The unit was disbanded on November 10 that year.

AN 'ACE' PILOT

After completing his flight training in the US, Donald J. Strait arrived in England to fly the P-47 in autumn 1943 assigned to the 361st FS. A native of Verona, New Jersey, he proudly took the name of his home state into combat with the Luftwaffe in the skies above Europe, naming his aircraft Jersey Jerk.

After finding that the name he had wanted, Jersey Bounce, was already taken, though initially reluctant

ABOVE
A clever Corgi montage picture of the model of P-51D Mustang Jersey Jerk in battle-torn skies defending the bombers under its care. All model images courtesy Corgi



Major Donald J. Strait poses by his P-51D Jersey Jerk in this wartime view. Image credit: US Air Force

to include the word “Jerk” in the name of his fighter, the pilot relented after his crew chief is reported to have said to him: “Sir, let me tell you why we want to name it that. Any guy that would take off in a single engine airplane, cross the North Sea in the wintertime and take a chance of getting his ass shot off by the Luftwaffe or by anti-aircraft fire has got to be a jerk.”

Achieving three aerial victories whilst flying the Thunderbolt, Strait enjoyed his most prolific period of combat success once his unit converted to the P-51D Mustang at the end of 1944.

Wearing the distinctive markings of the 356th Fighter Group, red with blue diamonds, Strait and his Jersey Jerk scored a further 10.5 confirmed aerial victories in the final months of World War Two. There was a particularly productive day on February 20, 1945 when he shot down three Fieseler

Storch Luftwaffe observation aircraft in the same mission.

With a total of 13.5 aerial victories, Donald Strait ended the war as the most successful pilot in the 356th Fighter Group. To gain ‘Ace’ status a pilot needed to shoot down at least five enemy aircraft.

During his two combat tours Strait flew 122 missions. During those missions 10.5 victories were scored in a P-51 Mustang. The .5 score refers to a shared ‘kill’.

In late 1944 he became the Commanding Officer of the 361st Fighter Squadron. After



LEFT A rare photo of Major Donald J. Strait’s P-51D Jersey Jerk in the skies over Europe during World War Two. Image credit: US Air Force

“...any guy that would take off in a single engine airplane, cross the North Sea in the wintertime and take a chance of getting his ass shot off by the Luftwaffe or by anti-aircraft fire has got to be a jerk.”

BELOW

This low angle view of Corgi’s Jersey Jerk captures the lines of a Mustang nicely. Note also the model’s underwing drop tanks.



//

His other achievements were graduating Air War College, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Reserve and ROTC Affairs. He retired as a Major General in 1978.

//



the war he joined the New Jersey Air National Guard and became a Squadron Commander and Wing Commander. His other achievements were graduating Air War College, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Reserve and ROTC Affairs. He retired as a Major General in 1978. He was decorated nine times and the final honour was his induction into the New Jersey Aviation Hall of Fame. Donald J. Strait passed away in 2015.

THE CORGI MODEL

Corgi's model of Jersey Jerk (AA27708) is up to the company's usual high standards and is a particularly attractively finished example. The 356th Fighter Group's red with blue diamonds nose and bonnet makes for a colourful model and is well finished considering the scale of the model.

It has the usual Corgi features such as parts for optional undercarriage up or down, a rotating propeller and a pilot figure. The model also includes underwing fuel tanks, which represent the large 108 US gallon tanks which would be dropped before the fighters entered aerial combat.

Unusually the name Jersey Jerk appears on both sides of the aircraft's forward fuselage. Normally names would appear on the port side only.

The Mustang in 1/72 scale has a length of 13.7cm and a wingspan of 15.5cm. It comes complete with a sturdy display stand.

At the time of writing Corgi had sold out of this model on its website, and it has a rrp of £59.99. Numerous retailers online were still advertising the model for sale though. ■



ABOVE
Note the 'kill' markings on the canopy rail in this rear three-quarters view of the model.

LEFT The Corgi model is supplied with a sturdy display stand.

BELOW The name Jersey Jerk appears on both sides of the forward fuselage.



DSC Showcases

The finest Glass Showcases and Wall Display Cabinets for Collectors & Modellers

A TOUCH OF GLASS!
BIG OR SMALL, WE MAKE THEM ALL!
WALL CASES & SHOW CASES



'Merrill Ville'
Enborne Row
Wash Water
Newbury
RG20 0LX

01635 34656

admin@dscshowcases.co.uk www.dscshowcases.co.uk

Ramsay's 18th
NOW AVAILABLE DIGITALLY!

Print editions are now sold out but
 don't let that stop you from accessing
 the Ramsay's Collection on the go.

To download your digital
 edition simply visit
<https://ccofgb.uk/ramsay>
 or scan the QR code...



**The diecast collectors' trusted guide
 for collecting and valuing since 1983!**

A must for all diecast model
 collectors, *Ramsay's British
 Diecast Model Toy Catalogue*
 remains the most reliable
 benchmark for all collecting
 price guides.

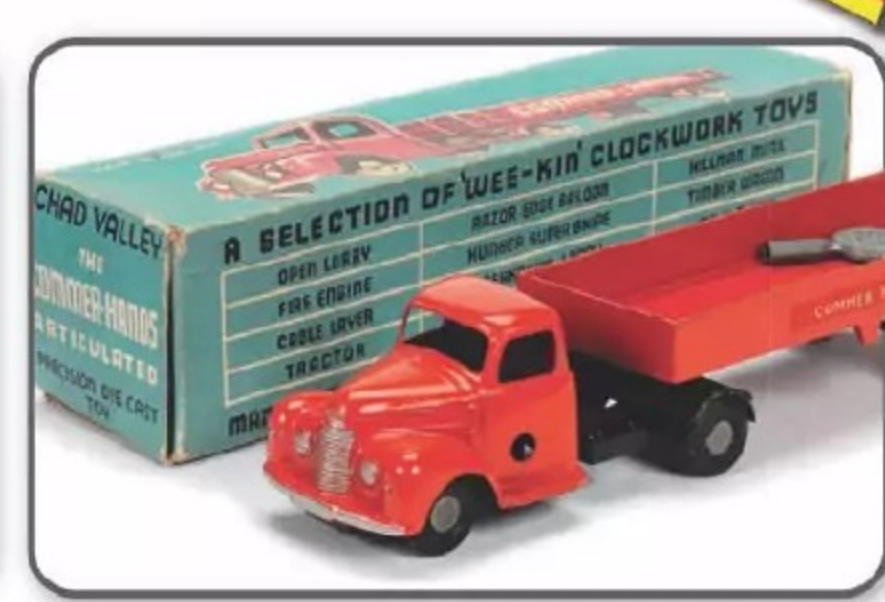
THE UK'S BEST PRICE GUIDE FOR MODELS AND TOYS

Ramsay's

BRITISH DIECAST

18th Edition

MODEL TOYS CATALOGUE



356 PAGES • OVER 19,000 LISTINGS • 50+ MANUFACTURERS



The Collector's Price Guide to: Dinky Toys • Corgi • Matchbox

• Models of YesterYear • Tri-ang • Spot-On • Britains • Morestone

PLUS comprehensive listings from all the British manufacturers from 1933-1983

From the publishers of

DIECAST

COLLECTORS

Collectors Club



TIGER HOBBIES LTD HOBBY IMPORTERS

IF YOU ARE A HOBBY STORE AND WISH TO SELL OUR MODELS PLEASE CONTACT US ON THE DETAILS BELOW

TIGER HOBBIES LIMITED HOBBY MASTER CORE RANGE MODELS



HOBBY MASTER HA6629 1/72 EUROFIGHTER
TYPHOON BLACKJACK RAF 2021 TIGER HOBBIES
DISTRIBUTION EXCLUSIVE.

DUE JUNE/JULY 2025

PRICE £85.99



HOBBY MASTER CORE RANGE HA6624 EUROFIGHTER
TYPHOON 41 SQN RAF CONINGSBY 2015 DIECAST

PRICE £79.99 IN STOCK



HOBBY MASTER UK CORE RANGE HA6726
1/72 TORNADO GR.4 ZA600, 41 (R) TEST AND
EVALUATION SQN., RAF CONINGSBY, 2011.

PRICE £79.99 IN STOCK



HOBBY MASTER HA2651 UK CORE RANGE HARRIER
GR.9A 41 SQN RAF CONINGSBY

PRICE £71.99 IN STOCK

Tiger Hobbies Ltd.

Unit 18B, Goldthorpe Industrial Estate,
Commercial Road, Goldthorpe,
Yorkshire S63 9BL UK

www.tigerhobbies.co.uk
sales@tigerhobbies.co.uk
01709 890940

Superfast 1969-1982

No.
62

Charting the evolution of the Matchbox Superfast range during the Lesney years, from 1969 to 1982.

MERCURY COUGAR

Production: 1969-70

Catalogue: 1969 (2nd)-70

Box Styles: F, G

Retaining its regular wheels colours of a subtle metallic lime green shade with red interior and clear window unit, Mercury Cougar was one of the first to receive its wheels in the first year. But it wouldn't be long until a new but familiar-looking kid was on the block.

RAT ROD DRAGSTER

Production: 1970-73

Catalogue: 1971-73

Box Styles: G

Rat Rod Dragster is a modified version of Mercury Cougar and has larger wheel arches to house the wider second generation Superfast wheels. Based on the previous No.62, Mercury Cougar, it features the well-used V8 engine block, proudly displayed through a hole in the bonnet. On the down side, the opening doors had been deleted.

It is painted a vibrant lime green, which can actually vary from a yellow-green through to a darker grass-green, and has an unpainted base and grille, clear windows and red interior. It has a fancy red and green "Rat Rod" sticker on each side, but can occasionally be found with "Wildcat" stickers from No.8 Wildcat Dragster.

RENAULT 17TL

Production: 1974-79

Catalogue: 1974-79

Box Styles: I

This model was based on the smart-looking French sports coupé that was produced between 1971 and 1980, notable as being the first Renault car in the Matchbox 1-75 range.

It is a very good representation of the real car, with its quad headlights and louvered rear panels. It was only ever produced in one colour, red-orange, with a matt black base.

The doors open to reveal the white interior and the glazing was green-tinted. On the bonnet is a rather unnecessary decal with a number on a coloured GT



//

On the bonnet is a rather unnecessary decal with a number on a coloured GT stripe. This label was sometimes applied upside-down, so it could read as either a "6" or a "9".

//

stripe. This label was sometimes applied upside-down, so it could read as either a "6" or a "9".

The only variation is a version that appeared in the Rescue gift set, when it was commandeered into service as a fire chief car. For this it features a "Fire" sticker on each door and there is no racing decal on the bonnet.

CHEVROLET CORVETTE

Production: 1979-82

Catalogue: 1980-82

Box Styles: L

Considering that Corvettes had been around since the 1950s, it was quite surprising that it took Matchbox until 1980 to get around to modelling such a potentially popular car.

Unlike the Lincoln Continental and the Cougar Villager, this turned out to be exactly the sort of American car that American kids wanted to see. Based on the 1977 model Corvette, it was an excellent replica that captured the curvy shape of the real car without the exaggeration that a Hot Wheels model could have.

Initially it was finished in an attractive metallic red colour with rather basic white tampon printed designs on the bonnet and doors. The base, including the side exhausts, was bare metal, and the interior was tan plastic. This design was short lived and, in 1981, it was recoloured black with orange and yellow stripes on the bonnet and roof.

Post-Lesney, in 1983, the casting was significantly modified. The roof was cut away over the doors to represent a semi-convertible T-roof version that had removable glass panels above the seats. ■

A-Z of diecast



This month **Alwyn Brice** continues with the letter R.

Although the origins of Rio can be traced back to 1952, the year that three brothers founded the Fratelli Tattarletti enterprise, Rio Models *per se* didn't come about until late 1961 or early 1962. The brothers' background in diecasting parts and items for other companies provided a logical step to the marketing of finished models.

In many respects, Rio was a trailblazer in the 1/43 arena. The brothers' initial focus was on vehicles from the 1920s or thereabouts, a gloriously ornate and fascinating period in the realms of automotive development. Not only that, their quality was extremely high: a typical Rio model would be three or four times the price of its competitor, and a Rio model was arguably the top of the tree at that time. The company's range was thus instantly focussed on the collector, rather than the juvenile, and the intricacy and detail of the models would prohibit any thoughts about playing with these alongside, say, Dinky or Corgi toys.

If it modelled cars and vehicles from the Golden Age, in real time Rio's best years were arguably the 1960s and the 1970s; thereafter it appears that an irregular supply of its products militated against its success. Keeping up with rivals necessitated it expanding its periods covered, though, and so it would venture into transport hailing from more recent decades.

Quality, however, came with a tag: the emergence of Brumm and Eligor, whose products were well detailed yet pitched at a more affordable price point, contributed to the decline of the company's fortunes, and the Italian company was finally subsumed by M4 models in 2011.

But Rio is still alive and kicking – and its current output can be readily found on the internet and at swapmeets. The older (1920s era) models are a little bit more elusive but still turn up regularly – at surprisingly modest prices, given their original cost.

ABOVE
Classic Ferrari 250 LM by Revell is let down by crude wire wheels and rather unsightly bodywork gaps – but these models were never intended to be expensive replicas.



ABOVE
Panhard Levassor from RAMI in striking lilac certainly stands out: not one for the wallflowers!

BELOW
Bugatti Type 35c from RAMI takes some liberties (such as the exhaust pipe...)



Interesting outer packaging and the inclusion of a plastic box within have jointly contributed towards a healthy survival rate, I feel.

ACROSS THE RIVER

If you're looking out for something on the River Series, then you'll have to go back to the November 2024 issue of *Diecast Collector*: you'll find this little-known range under the Jordan Lewden section.

REVELLING IN DIECAST

Mention the word Revell to anyone of a certain age (ie someone who grew up in the post-war years), and without a shadow of a doubt the image conjured up will be that of plastic kits. Not, admittedly, kits of home-grown manufacture, for that accolade would have gone primarily to Airfix. But from across the Pond came Revell kits to rival what was available here – and indeed, founder Lewis Glaser had been active in the plastic moulding business back in the mid-1940s.

Predictably, kits opened the way to slot racing, the big thing in the 1960s; but when that craze died down, kit building also came a cropper. Revell



TOP LEFT

Typical American 1950s excess is ably demonstrated in this Revell Ford Thunderbird: model is 1/18 scale.

TOP RIGHT

A rare foray into the vintage era of military vehicles: the Fiat 18 BL truck is a fine evocation from Rio.

RIGHT

More modern fare from Rio: the VW Beetle is now retailed in a window box.

FAR RIGHT

RAMI box art was simplistic, reminiscent, perhaps, of a gentler age.



ABOVE

Revell's Blue Angels Navy aircraft is anything but subtle.



ABOVE

Isotta Fraschini 8A Spyder (1926) from Rio evokes the Golden Age of motoring.



would subsequently be bought and sold as a company several times but as far as I know today it is still producing from plants in China and Poland.

Its diecast models bear comparison with those of Bburago and Maisto. In terms of scale, you can take your pick: 1/18 offers a wide range but equally there are 1/24 and 1/43 models. If your particular bent is Lesney scale, then an array of colourful racing cars, including those from NASCAR and Monte Carlo events, may tempt. Aviation buffs are also catered for in terms of jet aircraft and propeller-driven types. Revell even ventured on to the high seas in 1/1000 scale: cruise liners anyone?

Reassuringly, Revell still manufactures kits but clearly the need to diversify has seen it produce a wide range of diecasts. Its cars exhibit a strong German theme and are not confined to more recent automotive developments: there are models that date from the 1950s and 1960s, for example. The larger scales permit opening features and, in keeping with a fiercely competitive marketplace, the models are keenly priced. Expect secondhand examples to be equally reasonable, since the bigger scale models will probably have been displayed in a collection, and nothing more. Quality is acceptable, although paint can vary a bit.

WOODEN RAMI-FICATIONS

RAMI (Rétrospectives Automobiles Miniatures, to give the French company its credentials), came about in 1958 and was the result of a trio of enthusiasts: Léon Jarry (who had previously worked for Quiralu), Henri Malartre and Emile Koch. RAMI by JMK (derived from the trio's family names' initials) was the full moniker.

Rather like Rio (although certainly not in terms

of detail), the company focussed on a historical period: this was roughly 1878 to 1934. Thus early mechanised transport as well as more refined vehicles can be found within the range of models. French marques dominated because initially the enterprise set about replicating cars housed in the Automobile Museum Malartre of Rochetaillée sur Saône – the actual collection of one of the founders.

Prototype RAMI vehicles were fashioned in wood although this was translated into zamac for production purposes; wheels and tyres were manufactured in plastic, however. Production spanned almost two decades, with the final model, a 1927 rendering of the famous Mercedes SSK, being released in 1969.

With the death of Emile Koch in 1967 and the fact that Léon Jarry had decided to retire, the company was consequently wound up.

Viewed today, RAMI's 1/43 output is modest (just under 40 vehicles were made) and whilst the majority appear a little crude in construction, nonetheless devotees will point out some of the delicate details that are perhaps unexpected. What's helpful, should you be seduced by this slightly strange range of veteran and vintage vehicles largely representing French types, is that they are not difficult to find. Once again, that well-known auction site will come to your rescue.

Having said that, it's also surprising to see that many of these models have found their way across the Channel... this means that you won't have to fork out outrageous sums for carriage (who voted to leave the EU, then?). Coupled with that is the arguably low level of interest in this manufacturer, which translates into modest prices: anything from £10-25, I've recorded. ■

TOP VINTAGE MODEL

DTCA Chairman, **Michael Driver**, picks another vintage favourite from Dinky...



Jaguar Sports Car

A family friend had a 1940s Standard Tourer convertible car and on occasions we would go for a run with the hood down – it made a change from my father’s BSA motorcycle combination with me in the sidecar! On these outings most of the cars were pre-War saloons such as Fords, Austins, Hillmans and the like. However, occasionally, there was a sports car which for me was far more interesting... it being a full-size model like one of my Dinky Toys sports cars! I had a Dinky Toys Lagonda and a Jaguar sports car at the time.

The Dinky Toys sports cars were first introduced in 1939 but the war intervened, so in 1945 the series continued with the introduction of the Dinky Toys Jaguar Sports Car in October 1946. The car had originally been announced in the June 1939 *Meccano Magazine* advert as the S.S. “Jaguar” Sports Car No.38f. In the *Meccano Magazine* advert

of October 1946 it says ‘Here is a model that will make a special appeal to all sports car enthusiasts. Note the windscreen. Price 1/3 (including Tax)’.

The Jaguar came in red with a maroon interior and tonneau and the early cars had black wheels and silver edging to the windcreens. There followed colours of blue with red or grey interiors and now with matching blue wheels. Further models were in brown with a blue interior and light brown with a brown interior both having black wheels. They were sold in Trade Boxes of six models.

A prototype was produced in 1939 finished in red with a maroon interior another colour was in light green with a grey interior. Both had plain tin plate bases and plain black wheels. The red version was the one chosen for production in 1946 and the eventual model was deleted in 1950. However, it continued for export with a

ABOVE Dinky Toys Jaguar Sports Car No.38f in red, brown, blue and grey.

new number of 105 until around 1955 and is shown in American Dinky Toys catalogues for 1953 as number 38f and in the 1954 edition as number 105.

An interesting variation occurred in the early 1950s as the inspiration of Andrew Whyte of Jaguar who wrote extensively about Jaguar. He was also acquainted with Michel Cagnet who was with Royal Elysees – Ch Delecroix in Paris who imported Jaguars. Both also had an interest in Jaguar models and as a result Andrew contacted Meccano to see if they could produce the SS Jaguar again. Meccano agreed and found the dies. Some twenty were produced before the dies became damaged. These models were given to Jaguar directors and Sir William Lyons. The models were finished in silver with a blue interior, a white steering wheel and chrome wheels.

The SS Jaguar was the first real sports car for Jaguar and was developed in 1936. With its long bonnet and double windcreens and spare wheel on the rear it was the essence of the 1930s sportscars. The company, founded by William Lyons had produced side cars for motor-cycles and specialist car bodies. ■



Dinky Toys Jaguar Sports Car in silver to be re-issued but the dies broke – 12 models were given to Jaguar directors.

The Dinky Toys Collectors’ Association

The Dinky Toys sports cars have always fascinated collectors and illustrations appear occasionally in the DTCA Journal with additional information. If you would like to find out more details or join, then visit the website at www.dtcawebsite.com



Diecast Gems



DIECAST GEMS THE HOME OF VINTAGE DIECAST TOYS.

PLEASE VIEW MY WEBSITE WWW.DIECASTGEMS.COM

DINKY

- 22c Military Motor Truck. Rare. Superb. A—A/U **£625**
 25a Wagon Type 4 Blue/Black & Blue w. A—A/U **£275**
 25b Type 3 Covered Wagon Grey/Black & Black W. A—A/U **£160**
 25d Type 3 Petrol Tanker. Light Green/Black & Black w. B+-A- **£195**
 25M Bedford End Tipper Orange & Black W. A—A/U **£225**
 25X Commer Breakdown Lorry. Violet Blue & Grey & Red W. A—A/A- **£330**
 28A Pre-War Delivery Van Type 1 Hornby Trains. Yellow, Blue Wash W. B+/U **£2300**
 28k Pre-War Delivery Van Type 1 Marshes Sausages Green & Green WW. B+/U **£2950**
 28Y Pre-War Delivery Van T2. Exide Batteries. Red & Black Sm W. B+/U **£950**
 102 MG Midget Tourer Green & Cream. Cream W. A—A/U **£175**
 156 Rover 75 Blue & Cream A—A/A- **£250**
 156 Rover 75 Two tone Green A/B+ **£210**
 157 Jaguar XK120 Grey & Yellow A/B+ **£320**
 158 Riley Green A/A **£250**
 161 Austin Somerset Red & Yellow A/A **£650**
 169 Studebaker Green & Beige Spun W A/A—A **£180**
 181 VW Beetle RAF Blue & Blue W A/A **£175**
 182 Porsche 356A Cream & Blue W. A—A/B+ **£180**
 261 Morris GPO Telephone Van A/B+ **£185**
 282 Roadmaster Coach Red A—A/B+ **£140**
 301 Field Marshall Tractor Orange & Green W A/B-B+ **£185**
 413 Austin Wagon Red & Grey A-/A- **£425**
 414 Dodge Tipper Blue & Grey. Cream W. A/B+ **£325**
 420 Forward Control Red & Green W A/B+ **£180**
 420 Forward Control Red & Cream W Scarce. A—A/A—A **£260**
 465 Morris Capstan Van A/B+-A- **£230**
 435 Bedford TK Tipper White/Silver/Blue Scarce. (Other Colours) A/A- **£395**
 503 Foden 1st Cab Violet Blue & Orange A-/A- **£595**
 514 Guy Weetabix Van A-/A- **£2750**

- 905 Foden 2nd Cab Chain lorry Green A—A/A- **£250**
 979 Newmarket Horsebox. Grey & Lemon & YELLOW St W Rare A—A/A—A **£1200**
 988 ABC TV Transmitter Van A-/B+ **£225**

CORGI

- GS7 Daktari Speedwheels A/B+ **£225**
 GS7 Daktari Spun W A/A- **£350**
 GS14 Hydraulic Tower Wagon Red B+-A- **£150**
 GS38 Monte Carlo set & 3 cars A/B+ **£1750**
 GS40 Avengers with Green Bentley & Red W A/B+-A- **£950**
 153A Bluebird Record Car 2 UK Flags. A/B+ **£175**
 200 Ford Consul Cream A—A/B+-A- **£325**
 204M Rover Metallic Green. A—A/B+ **£325**
 209 Riley Police Car A—A/B-B+ **£150**
 211 Studebaker Golden Hawk Blue A/B+ **£175**
 216 Austin A40 Blue Spun shape W A—A/A—A **£225**
 224 Bentley Black & Silver A—A/A—A **£140**
 237 Oldsmobile Sheriff Car. Black & White. A—A/A **£180**
 241 Ghia L6.4 Met Blue & White Interior Scarce. A—A/A—A **£225**
 246 Chrysler Imperial Red A—A/B+ **£165**
 252 Rover 2000 Met Blue A/B+ **£125**
 259 Citroen le Dandy Plum A/B+ **£135**
 300 Austin Healey Cream A—A/B+ **£150**
 301 Triumph TR2 Green A/A- **£240**
 331 Ford Capri White RN5 A/A- **£85**
 333 RAC Sun Rally Mini A/A—A Instruction sheet. Sticky label nice. Rare. **£575**
 339 Monte Carlo Mini & Roof rack RN 177. A—A/A- **£345**
 374 Jaguar E Type Yellow W Box. A/B+-A- **£110**
 377 Marcos Yellow Window Box A/B+-A- **£110**
 383 VW Beetle 1200 PTT Speed W. Wind Box. A—A/B+ **£225**
 383 VW Beetle 1200 ADAC German Rescue A—A/B+ **£225**
 437 Superior Ambulance White & Blue. A/A—A **£225**
 448 Police BMC Mini Van & Tracker dog. Scarce flat base plinth internal stand. A—A/A- **£240**
 457 ERF 44G Platform Lorry TT Blue A—A/A **£160**

**Postage in the UK is £10 for any number of models signed for and tracked.
 A wide range of models can be viewed on my website www.diecastgems.com**

Grading guide

A = Mint, A—A= VN Mint, A-= N Mint, B+= Excellent Plus, B-B++ Very good, B= Good

**If you have a question or would like to discuss any matter please call me on my landline
 01297 678250 or mobile 07973 563476.**

Payments can be made through the website shop using PayPal or Stripe or you may send a cheque or arrange a bank transfer, details can be given on request. To avoid disappointment, I would recommend you ring or send a text to the mobile to reserve an item if posting a cheque.

Happy collecting! Phil Silvester at Diecast Gems.

Email: phil@diecastgems.com www.diecastgems.com

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE!



Pay just £41.99 for 12 issues

Saving 30% when you subscribe yearly!*

Why subscribe...

- Features from the world of vintage, nostalgic toys and models
- Handy tips and price guides featured every month
- The latest releases from all the major manufacturers
- Get inspired with the latest auction, toyfairs and events

**FREE
GIFT!**



Get a copy of the Toy Collectors Price Guide 2025*



HOW TO ORDER YOURS...

Simply scan the QR code seen here, visit <https://ccofgb.uk/CollectorsGazette> or call our team on 01778 392006 and quote GAZ/SUBS25.

*T&Cs apply. Free gift available while stocks last. Rate applies only when you subscribe to 12 issues of Collectors Gazette via a Direct Debit. Offer is valid from 13th February 2026. See website for details.



SALE RESULTS

FOLLOW US AT  @ccofgb  @CollectorClubGB  CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain  CollectorsClubofGB



■ **A boxed Dinky Battle Of Britain Spitfire MkII # 719.** The model appears in very good condition overall, with some minor marks. Comes with instructions and sticker sheet. The box is fair to good with some wear. **Sold for £40, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A boxed Dinky Battle Of Britain Junkers Ju 87B # 721.** The model appears in very good condition overall, with some minor marks. Comes with instructions and sticker sheet. The box is fair to good with some wear. **Sold for £40, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A rare Bedford TK Esso Tanker by Wells Brimtoy,** the cab is plastic with a gyro motor and the trailer is tinsplate, the model appears in very good overall condition. **Sold for £60, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **Dinky Supertoys #958 Snow Plough with windows,** appears playworn in a fair box with obvious signs of storage. **Sold for £25, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **Dinky Supertoys #908 Mighty Antar with Transformer,** yellow, the figure appears to be playworn with transformer still included. The box appears fair and has signs of storage and wear present. **Sold for £85, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Dinky No. #164 Ford Zodiac MK1V Silver Perspex Top version.** Model appears to be good to very good with minor imperfections present, the clear perspex case appears to be good with signs of age and Dinky Toys sticker still attached. **Sold for £25, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.81x Limited Edition 1/43 scale white metal Pierce Arrow 1601 Sedan BCC 2000 Special (Gangster Car).** The model comes with metal figures and accessories plus certificate stating the model is limited to 250, and appears to be in mint condition. The model and accessories sit within a good box with some general wear. The model is unchecked for completeness. **Sold for £60, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.106A 1/43 scale white metal 1938 Lincoln Zephyr 4-Door Sedan.** The model in arden green poly appears to be in Mint condition, and is housed within a Very Good box with some general wear. The model is unchecked for completeness. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.114 1/43 scale white metal 1949 Oldsmobile Club Coupe.** The model in serge blue metallic appears to be in mint condition, and is housed within a very good box with some general wear. The model is unchecked for completeness. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.106 1/43 scale white metal 1938 Lincoln Zephyr 4-Door Sedan (by permission of the Ford Motor Co.).** The model in metallic grey appears to be in mint condition, and is housed within a very good box with some general wear. The model is unchecked for completeness. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.147a 1/43 scale white metal 1952 Cadillac Series 62 4-Door Sedan.** The model in savoy gray/mist gray appears to be in Mint condition, and is housed within a Very Good box with some general wear. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.147 1/43 scale white metal 1952 Cadillac Series 62 4-Door Sedan.** The model in black appears to be in mint condition, and is housed within a very good box with some general wear. **Sold for £28, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models Limited Edition Special BRK.95x 1/43 scale white metal 1948 Buick Station Wagon SFBBC 2004.** The model is one of only 200 produced and appears to be in mint condition, housed within a very good box with some general wear. **Sold for £50, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ **A Brooklin Models BRK.52 1/43 scale white metal 1941 Hupmobile Model 115R Skylark Custom Touring Sedan.** The model appears to be in mint condition, and is housed within a good overall box with some general wear. **Sold for £20, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ A Brooklin Models BRK.55a 1/43 scale white metal 1951 Packard Mayfair (by permission of the Studebaker National Museum USA). The model appears to be in Mint condition, and is housed within a Good overall box with some general wear. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, June.**



■ Corgi Juniors E3019 "James Bond" Gift Set taken from the film "Octopussy", to include range rover with Horse box and Jet aircraft. Near mint (slight discolouration to jet) on a good plus displays well (factory sealed) blister card. **Sold for £100, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Juniors E3082 "James Bond" Gift Set to include 5 pieces - "Jaws" Van, Lotus Esprit, "Moonraker" Space shuttle, "Drax" Jet Helicopter and Aston Martin DB5, conditions are generally excellent to mint in a good to good plus window box (fading). **Sold for £220, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi 261 "James Bond" Aston Martin DB5 taken from the film "Goldfinger", gold body with red interior, with "James Bond & Bandit" figures, silver trim and wire wheels. Good overall still displays well in a poor blue and yellow carded picture box, inner pictorial stand is good with loose folded instruction leaflet only. **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi 269 "James Bond" Lotus Esprit taken from the film "The Spy Who Loved Me", white, black with "007" bonnet label. Good plus in a good displays well film strip window box without "Hammer & Sickle" logo, also comes missiles attached to sprue. **Sold for £70, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Rockets D925 "James Bond" Ford Capri, white body with black bonnet stripes and checked roof, racing No.6 and lemon interior. Good plus on a fair (opened) blister card. **Sold for £190, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Toys 261 "James Bond" Aston Martin DB5 taken from the film "Goldfinger", gold body, red interior with "James Bond & Bandit" Figures, wire wheels. Excellent (couple of small marks on roof) in a good plus pictorial stand, outer blue and yellow carded picture box is good plus to excellent (couple of minor scuffs on edges) also with instruction pack containing folded leaflet, lapel badge and spare bandit figure - envelope is fair. **Sold for £160, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Toys 336 "James Bond" Toyota 2000GT taken from the film "You Only Live Twice", white body, black interior with "James Bond & AKI" Figures, red aerial and wire wheels. Excellent overall in a excellent plus crisp example blue and yellow carded picture box with inner pictorial stand, also with instruction pack containing lapel badge and folded leaflet. **Sold for £280, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Dinky Toys 352 "UFO" ED Strakers Car, yellow body, black engine cover, off white interior, silver trim and cast hubs. Good plus bright example in a good yellow and red carded picture box with correct instruction leaflet. **Sold for £100, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Toys 807 "The Magic Roundabout" Dougal's Car, yellow body with red plastic wheels complete with figures. Excellent lovely bright example in a good later window box. **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Toys 808 "Basil Brush" Car, yellow, red including plastic hubs with "Basil Brush" figure. Excellent in a good blue and yellow window box with laughing box and card. **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Corgi Toys 9004 "The World Of Wooster" Vintage Bentley, green body with graphite grey chassis, wire wheels and with "Bertie & Jeeves" figures. Excellent plus, outer presentation pack is fair. **Sold for £70, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Dinky Toys 360 "Space 1999" Eagle Freighter, white and blue with red and side thrusters. Excellent overall bright example in a good (crushed) window box with decal sheet. **Sold for £140, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Dinky Toys 359 "Space 1999" Eagle Transporter, white and green with chrome rear and yellow thrusters. Good plus to excellent in a poor bubble carded base is excellent. **Sold for £110, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Dinky Toys 36a Armstrong Siddeley Grey body with (type 5) black chassis and silver ridged hubs, good plus to excellent. **Sold for £140, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ Dinky Toys 36a Armstrong Siddeley, grey body with (type 5) black chassis and ridged/smooth hubs with off white tyres. Good plus to excellent bright example. **Sold for £70, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 503 Foden (type 1) Flat Truck With Tailboard**, red cab, back and ridged hubs with herringbone tyres, black chassis and side flashes, silver trim and without tow hook. Fair to good still a bright example in a good to good plus buff lift off lid box with paper labels and correct "R" end stamp (small tear on one side of lid). **Sold for £130, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 582 Bedford Pullman Car Transporter**, pale blue cab and trailer with dark grey platforms, mid-blue ridged and supertoy hubs, twin rivet side. Excellent overall in a good blue and white striped lift off lid box. **Sold for £50, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 176 Austin A105 Saloon**, light beige body and ridged hubs, with blue side flashes, silver trim. Excellent plus (some super-detailing) in a good plus yellow and red carded picture box and with correct colour spot. **Sold for £110, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 967 "BBC TV" Mobile Control Room**, green, grey roof, side flashes and supertoy hubs, silver trim. Good plus to excellent (some roof marks) in a good blue and white striped lift off lid box. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 968 "BBC TV" Roving Eye Vehicle**, green, grey roof, side flashes and supertoy hubs, silver trim and with detachable aerial. Good plus still a bright example in a good blue and white striped lift off lid box with inner packing piece. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 969 "BBC TV" Extending Mast Vehicle**, green, grey side flashes and supertoy hubs, black platforms silver trim, chrome mast and with detachable Satellite Dish. Good plus to excellent lovely bright example in a good to good plus blue and white striped lift off lid box with inner packing piece and instruction leaflet. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 958 Guy Warrior With Snow Plough**, two-tone black and yellow including front blade and with supertoy hubs, (missing roof light). Good plus in a good blue and white striped lift off lid box. **Sold for £35, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 948 Tractor-Trailer "McLean"**, red cab and plastic hubs, drab grey back. Good plus (usual chips on coupling) in a good to good plus blue and white striped lift off lid box. **Sold for £70, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 959 Foden Dump Truck With Bulldozer Blade**, red cab and tipper, silver chassis, lemon hubs (plastic to front). Good plus still a bright example in a good plus blue and yellow lift off lid box with detailed picture. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **French Dinky Toys 893 Tracteur Unic Saharien**, beige cab and trailer, white roof box, ridged and supertoy hubs, 6 X black plastic pipes. Excellent in a good to good plus blue and white striped lift off lid box. **Sold for £90, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys Pre-war 17 Passenger Train Set**, with green and black locomotive and 3 carriages. Conditions are fair in a good lift off lid box with paper labels. **Sold for £70, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 968 "BBC TV" Roving Eye Vehicle**, green, grey including roof, side flashes and supertoy hubs with detachable aerial. Good (some super-detailing) in a good overall blue and white striped lift off lid box. **Sold for £50, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Spanish Dinky Toys 1450 Simca "Police" Car**, two-tone white and blue, tan interior, concave hubs. Excellent in a good (slightly grubby) yellow and red carded picture box. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 739 A6M5 Zero-Sen**, metallic aqua, black nose with red propeller, with roundels. Excellent in a fair bubble pack. **Sold for £50, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 697 Military Field Gun Set**, to include - Artillery Tractor (without windows), Ammunition Trailer and Field Gun. All finished in green including ridged hubs. Excellent plus to near mint in a good plus displays well blue and yellow picture lift off lid box with inner packing piece. **Sold for £110, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys Military 665 Honest John Missile Launcher**, green including plastic platform and hubs. Excellent overall with a good plus cream and black missile in a good to good plus yellow and red carded box with detailed picture also with hard to find correct multi-language folded leaflet. **Sold for £60, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 140B/156 Rover 75 Saloon**, maroon body, silver trim, with red ridged hubs and large baseplate lettering. Good plus bright example of a harder to find issue. **Sold for £70, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 102 MG Midget Sports Car**, green body, cream interior and tonneau with figure driver, silver trim and harder to find spun hubs. Good plus bright example. **Sold for £130, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 140D/152 Austin Devon Saloon**, drab green body, silver trim, small baseplate lettering and maroon ridged hubs. Good plus lovely example of a harder to find issue. **Sold for £100, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **French Dinky Toys 24R Peugeot 203 (type 3 rear window and Cross hatching to snide roof)**, greyish-blue body, silver trim and chrome convex hubs with white tyres - excellent overall! **Sold for £80, Vectis Auctions, July.**



■ **Corgi Major No 1152-Mack Truck with Petrol Tanker Shell/BP**, boxed, flaps missing to one end. **Sold for £15, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi #CC05301 The Dukes Of Hazard 1/36 Dodge Charger**, with hand painted white metal figures 'Bo & Duke', boxed, minor crushing to box noted. **Sold for £40, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi #CC05501 Back To The Future 1/36 DeLorean Time Machine**, with Doc Brown metal figure, boxed. **Sold for £30, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi #CC99111 Only Fools And Horses Ford Capri & Reliant Regal Super Van Set**, boxed, with some edge wear. **Sold for £32, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi #CC54508 Smokey and the Bandit 1/36 Pontiac Firebird**, with hand painted resin figure 'Burt Reynolds - The Bandit', boxed. **Sold for £32, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi #CC05601 Knight Rider 1/36 Pontiac Transam 'Kitt'**, with hand painted white metal figure 'Michael Knight', boxed. **Sold for £38, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi Toys No 1127 Simon Snorkel Fire Engine**, overall good plus/very good, boxed with instructions, rubbing and wear to box edges. **Sold for £30, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **An original 'Derek Fiske' Corgi Rocket Stock Car Set**, comprising stock car, Ford Capri, trailer and one key, overall good plus. **Sold for £60, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi Major No 1106 Mack Container Truck and Trailer**, overall very good plus/ excellent, boxed. **Sold for £32, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Corgi Toys No 153 Campbell Blue Bird**, black wheels, overall good plus/very good, boxed, slight crushing/tears to box. **Sold for £42, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys No 984 Car Carrier with Trailer**, overall fair/good, missing ramp to front part, would benefit from a clean. **Sold for £45, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **French Dinky Supertoys No 898 Berliet Traction with Transformer**, original good plus, with chipping to edges, missing transformer, boxed, missing insert with corner tears and fading. **Sold for £80, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **A Dinky No 171 Hudson Sedan Maroon**, upper body / turquoise lower body / red wheels, fair/ good. **Sold for £320, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **French Dinky No 828 Rocket Carrier Jeep**, overall very good/ excellent and complete, boxed. **Sold for £20, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys 734 Supermarine Swift**, overall very good, boxed, some staining to box. **Sold for £10, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys No 917 Mercedes Benz Truck and Trailer**, overall very good plus/ excellent, boxed with tray and foam intact, outer box missing all flaps. **Sold for £55, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Dinky No 945 AEC Fuel Tanker**, possibly Code 3, overall model very good; however, white on tanker painted and BP/Shell stickers added, boxed, box has contemporary Shell-Mex and BP sticker. **Sold for £25, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Dinky Supertoys No 972 - 20 Ton Lorry Mounted Crane - 'Coles'**, overall good, chipping to some areas, boxed with inserts, staining/rubbing to box lid. **Sold for £25, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **French Dinky No 502 Garage**, with opening door and lamp, appears unbroken, boxed with inserts, staining and slight tears to box. **Sold for £35, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **Dinky Toys No 980 Coles Hydra Truck 150T**, overall very good plus/ excellent, boxed, one inner flap missing, slight rubbing, insert intact. **Sold for £50, Sheffield Auction Gallery, July.**



■ **A boxed Dinky Ruston Bucyrus Excavator # 975**. The model shows signs of age and use and the rubber tracks are missing. It appears in fair to good condition overall, the box is good with some wear, the inner packing piece is still present. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Corgi Toys Gift Set No.23 'Chipperfields Circus'**. The set is a 1st issue example which includes #1121 Scammell Crane Truck; 2 x #1123 Animal Cages one with two lion figures, one with two polar bear figures, 1st issue Land Rover with metal tilt #426 Booking Office, plus #607 Elephant Cage with Trailer and elephant figure. There are a few small nicks mainly along the raised edges to some of the vehicles, overall appears to be in Very Good condition. The inner polystyrene tray has some wear, appears in Fair to Good condition. The blue and yellow lift-off lid box and card base shows some age and wear including a small puncture to the left of the lid, some scuffs, a small area of loss and some pen graffiti but still appears to be in fair to good overall. **Sold for £150, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Corgi Mercedes 220 SE Coupe in cream # 230**. The model although a little dusty from storage appears in excellent condition, the box has some storage creasing. **Sold for £22, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Corgi Chevrolet Impala State Patrol car # 223**. The model although a little dusty from storage appears in excellent condition, the box has some storage creasing. **Sold for £22, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Corgi Morris Mini Cooper Competition in blue and white with red interior and number 7 stickers # 227**. The model although a little dusty from storage appears in very good overall condition with a few paint chips, the box is good with a little wear. **Sold for £50, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Dinky Sunbeam Rapier in two tone blue # 166**. The model although a little dusty from storage appears in Excellent condition with only a few minor marks, the box is Good with the correct colour spot. **Sold for £45, British Toy Auctions, July.**



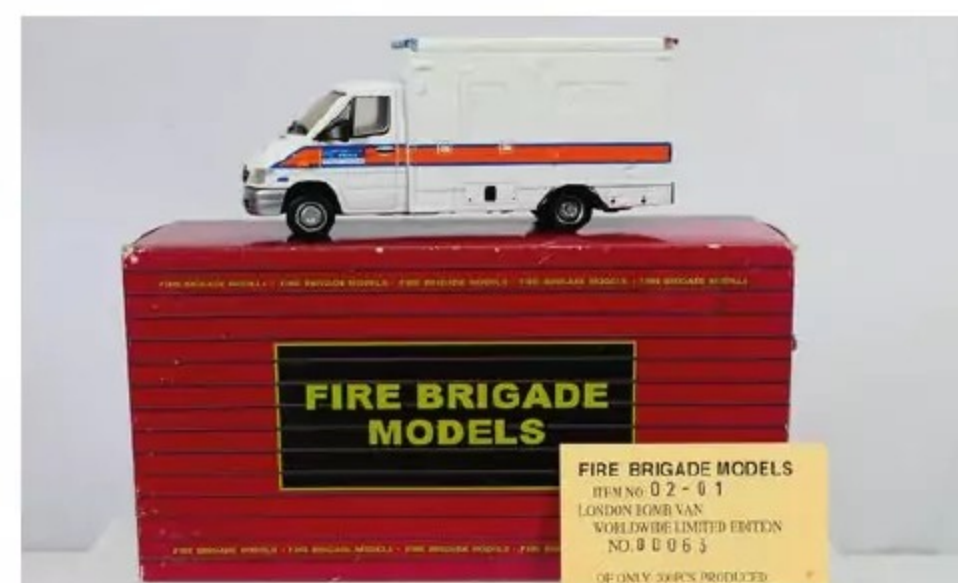
■ **A boxed Corgi Gift Set 21 ERF Dropside Lorry and Platform Trailer with Milk Churns # 21**. The model shows signs of play use and appears in fair condition overall, the box has storage creasing, the inner tray is still present. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Matchbox Aston Martin DB2-4 Mk1 in metallic red**, with silver painted front and rear trim and black plastic knobby tyres. The model is very good with some small paint chips. The box is good with all flaps intact. **Sold for £65, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Matchbox Commer Pick Up # 50**, in grey over red with silver grill and head lamps and grey 20 tread plastic wheels. The model appears near mint with a few tiny marks and a touched in chip on the bonnet. The box is good with all flaps intact. **Sold for £80, British Toy Auctions, July.**



■ **A boxed Limited Edition 1/43 scale Fire Brigade Models #02-01 Ford Transit London Bomb Van**. The model comes with certificate numbering the van 63 of only 250 produced. The model has some bubbling to the paint work, other than that appears to be in excellent condition overall. The box has some storage imperfections and tobacco odour and appears fair plus on the whole. **Sold for £30, British Toy Auctions, July.**



YOUR MODELS

FOLLOW US AT  @ccofgb  @CollectorClubGB  CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain  CollectorsClubofGB

✦ Stephen Yates

Although I've been collecting vintage Corgi for nearly 30 years, my collection has been pared down to my very best and is now quite modest - with a total of 35 items, all boxed and in mint or old shop stock condition. If I add any further items in the future, it will be on condition that they are 'old shop stock'.



➔ Paul Guilmoto

I've been collecting model cars since 1978. My first was a 1/24 Bburago Mk2 Ford Escort from Venice in Italy. I've always loved cars... both models and the real ones. I pretty much collect anything that takes my fancy and luckily my wife, Ally, doesn't mind and will even buy a car or two for birthdays etc.

This month's
WINNER!

Send us a photo and a little bit about your collection for your chance to be included and win a brand new diecast model worth at least £10*. Submit yours to CollectingEditorial@warnersgroup.co.uk.

*Ts&Cs Apply - Not affiliated with any manufacturer. See <https://ccofgb.uk/submityourcollection> for details.





Dear Editor

FOLLOW US AT @ccofgb @CollectorClubGB CollectorsClubOfGreatBritain CollectorsClubofGB



TOP TEKNO

■ **THANK YOU** for the recent issue of *Diecast Collector* (July 2025) that I just received here in the USA. I always enjoy reading about Lotus sports cars, the Esprit this time, and the article on the Lionel Century Club brought back memories of my dad's train room. He was a big HO train collector but also joined the Lionel Century Club to obtain their steam locomotives!

But then I read part 2 of *Diecast Copies* by Andrew Ralston and saw my name in print. As the author found out, I am a big Tekno and Vilmer fan and love learning about their history. I found a lot of information online in Danish, so I had help in researching their "Dodge" trucks.

Because of my interest in Tekno, I also dove into all the Joal and Pilen copies of their Monza GT. That research was published in *Model Collector* (Feb 2014). Many versions are out there for the collector to search for!

Three photographs are enclosed... red Tekno, military Vilmer and an Auto Pilen Monza are all shown.

Karl Schnelle, on email

ED Thank you for sharing your memories with us.



RANGE ROVER AT 55

■ **REFERRING** to Steve Coles recent articles *The Range Rover reaches 55* I too am an enthusiast of the original Range Rover but unlike Steve I have never aspired to owning one. I did however own a Series 3 Land Rover for several years and during that time acquired quite a few Land Rover models.

My childhood collection included the original bronze Dinky version and in later years I added the Police, Fire and Ambulance versions. The Ambulance version is particularly attractive in that it has no front passenger seat to accommodate a patient on a stretcher and is right hand drive as opposed to the other versions being left hand drive.

Steve also mentions the Solido/Verem versions, I attach a photo of 3 in my collection, Solido number 1817 in dark green, Verem number 9602 in the white UN livery but my favourite is the Solido Racing number 1927 which is the Range Rover of Gabreau – Gabbay from the '84 Paris Dakar rally which has the correctly blanked out rear windows and incorporates all of the sponsors logos the main one being PACIFIC, an era when the entrants actually looked like road cars and not space frame buggies.

Ashley Cooper, on email

READER HELP NEEDED

■ **I HAVE** a number of older Solido military models, where the wheels have melted and am looking for replacements. I have been unable to source a supplier and so was wondering if you (or other readers) can advise where I might be able to get

replacements? I am looking for desert fatigue and olive green colours please.

Chris Whiteman, on email

ED If you can help Chris please get in touch using the contact details below!

EMAIL YOUR LETTERS AND QUESTIONS TO CATHY AT:
CollectingEditorial@warnersgroup.co.uk

OR WRITE TO US: The Editor, *Diecast Collector*, Warners Group Publications plc, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9PH.



TOYFAIR TIMES

FAIRS

3 AUGUST

- **Musselburgh**, Jim Corr 07504 035955
- **Rayleigh**, KRJ Vintage Toy Fairs, 07977 646386/07889 901729

7 AUGUST

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

10 AUGUST

- **Harrogate**, Dalesman Diecasts, 01943 873420
- **Ashington**, David Parsons 07742 609865

16 AUGUST

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

17 AUGUST

- **Llangollen**, Jackson & Jackson Events, 07967 681080
- **Bromley**, KRJ Vintage Toy Fairs, 07977 646386/07889 901729
- **Newton Abbot**, Ray Heard, 01823 480097

30 AUGUST

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

31 AUGUST

- **Port Sunlight**, Jackson & Jackson Events, 07967 681080

6 SEPTEMBER

- **Brecon**, Jackson & Jackson Events, 07967 681080

7 SEPTEMBER

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

14 SEPTEMBER

- **Rayleigh**, KRJ Vintage Toy Fairs, 07977 646386/07889 901729
- **Ashington**, David Parsons, 07742 609865
- **Walsall Wood**, Transtar Promotions, 01922 643385

- **Rainton**, Jim Corr, 07504 035955

21 SEPTEMBER

- **Potters Bar**, Joe Lock, 07866 641215
- **Kidderminster**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773/07825 631323
- **Worthing**, David Parsons, 07742 609865
- **Shotton**, Deeside, UK Toy & Model Auctions, 01270 652773

27 SEPTEMBER

- **Brentwood**, J & J Fairs, 01522 880383
- **Ludlow**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773/07825 631323

28 SEPTEMBER

- **Bromley**, KRJ Vintage Toy Fairs, 07977 646386/07889 901729
- **Glasgow**, Jim Corr, 07504 035955

AUCTIONS

1 AUGUST

- **Canterbury**, The Canterbury Auction Galleries, 01227 763337

2 AUGUST

- **Canterbury**, The Canterbury Auction Galleries, 01227 763337

4 AUGUST

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

9 AUGUST

- **Kings Langley**, Excalibur Auctions, 020 3633 0913

11 AUGUST

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

18 AUGUST

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

19 AUGUST

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

20 AUGUST

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

22 AUGUST

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

27 AUGUST

- **Sedgemoor**, Greenslade Taylor Hunt, 01823 332525

1 SEPTEMBER

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

8 SEPTEMBER

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

11 SEPTEMBER

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

**TO ADVERTISE
HERE IN THE
NEXT ISSUE**

Please call Kristina
on **01778 392096**

15 SEPTEMBER

- **Runcorn**, British Toy Auctions, 01928 579032
- **Rayleigh**, Stacey's Auctioneers & Valuers, 01268 777122

16 SEPTEMBER

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

17 SEPTEMBER

- **Bourne**, Golding, Young & Mawer, 01778 422686
- **Warwick**, Warwick & Warwick, 01926 499031

NEW FAIR FOR YORKSHIRE

HARROGATE

TOY & TRAIN COLLECTORS FAIR

Pavilions of Harrogate, Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate, HG2 8NZ (off A661 Wetherby Road)

SUNDAY 10TH AUGUST

SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

10.30am – 3pm

100+ Tables • Free Parking • Refreshments

ADMISSION FEES

- Early Bird Entry £10.00 from 08.30am
- Adults/Seniors £5 • Children £1

For all table bookings & enquiries, contact Ken or Peter.

D D FAIRS

38 Victoria Road, Guiseley, Leeds, LS20 8DG
Tel: 01943 873420 info@dalesmandiecast.co.uk

www.dalesmandiecast.co.uk

YORK TOY, TRAIN & SCI-FI FAIR

Saturday 30th August



York Sport Centre, University of York, James Way, Heslington, York, YO10 5NA

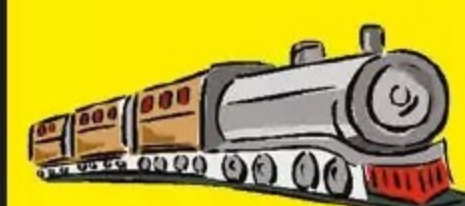
- 10.30am to 3pm. Over 250 tables, free parking • 10 mins from Designer Outlet A19/A64 Junction
- Bus 415 • Adults £4, Seniors & U16s £3. Early entry £7 from 8am.

Contact Jim on **07504 035955** or email: jim_corr73@hotmail.co.uk

TOY, TRAIN & SCI FI FAIR

NEW VENUE - GLASGOW

Bellahouston Leisure Centre, Bellahouston Drive,
Bellahouston, Glasgow G52 1HH
(Just off M77 Jct 1 and M8 Jct 24)



Sunday 28th September

- 220+ tables. 10.30 - 3pm • Free parking, cafe/refreshments
- Adults £4, Seniors & U16s £3.

Early entry from 8.30am £7 Adults & Seniors, U16s £4

Interested in selling your collection or want a table to sell your stock?
Contact Jim on **07504 035955** or email: jim_corr73@hotmail.co.uk

CLASSIFIEDS

NORTH YORKSHIRE

MonkBar Model Shop
Established 1963

Find us by Monk Bar
Only 2 minutes from
York Minster

2 Goodramgate
York - YO1 7LQ
01904 659423
Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

**Diecast Planes - Diecast Cars & Buses
Model Railways - Plastic Kits - Scalextric**

MONK BAR MODEL SHOP LTD

Stockists of Corgi Aviation, Collectables, Vanguard, OOC, Plus Bburago, Solido IXO Models, MCG, Oxford Diecast, W.Britain, Hobby Master, Siku & Britains and more

www.monkbarmodelshop.co.uk

Jaunty Jalopies of Hunmanby

6 Church Hill, Hunmanby, Nr Filey, YO14 0JU
Landline 01723 890060 Mobile 07889 286559

- Good stock of Corgi Classics, Vanguard, Modern Trucks
- Heavy Haulage, Plant & Construction, Farm, Classic Cars, Steam, Trackside, Aviation Archive
- Vintage Commercial, 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: info@jauntyjalopies.co.uk "Diecast is What we Do" www.jauntyjalopies.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE

CHURCH STREET MODELS

01256 358060

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.
Tel: 01256 358060

10A Church Street, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 7QE
Closed Monday (May-Sept), Tuesday (not December), Sunday & Bank Holidays

www.churchstreetmodels.co.uk

WEST MIDLANDS

SPRINGHILL MODELS

Stockists of
• OXFORD • IXO • GREENLIGHT
• SCHUCO & others

4 Springhill Lane • Penn • Wolverhampton WV4 4SH

01902 341302

Thursday to Saturday 10am - 4pm
Email: pete@springhillmodels.co.uk
Web: www.springhillmodels.co.uk

**TO ADVERTISE
HERE IN THE
NEXT ISSUE**

Please call Kristina
on **01778 392096**

PRICE GUIDE: WE HELP PUT A VALUE ON YOUR COLLECTION!

TOY COLLECTORS PRICE GUIDE 2025

YOUR ESSENTIAL FIELD GUIDE TO CLASSIC TOY COLLECTABLES

£9.99 • www.ccofgb.co.uk

Produced in association with



COLLECTORS

DIECAST

Collectors Club

**1300+ VINTAGE
MODELS
VALUED**

Helping to put an estimate
on your collection!

**£320K
WORTH OF**
Diecast, Railways,
Tinplate, TV & Film,
and online sale
results!



Vulcan Models O Gauge 0-6-0 tank
Loco BR lined Black Tender No.32644.

INCLUDING...

» DIECAST DELIGHTS

Hundreds of models from
Corgi, Dinky & many more

» ONLINE SALES

Star Wars, Scalextric, Timpo,
LEGO, Meccano and Airfix!

» TOP TINPLATE

From Schuco and Mettoy
to Chad Valley and Sutcliffe



£9.99

GET YOUR 2025 EDITION NOW!

Put an estimate on your vintage toys with Toy Collectors Price Guide

Nearly 100 pages of auction prices for
diecast, model railways, tinplate, toy
soldiers, and memorabilia. Don't overpay,
undersell, or miss a deal!

HOW TO ORDER YOURS...



SCAN HERE
FOR A PAPER
COPY



SCAN FOR
A DIGITAL
COPY

Order by calling 01778 392006 or go to <https://ccofgb.uk/tcpg2025>



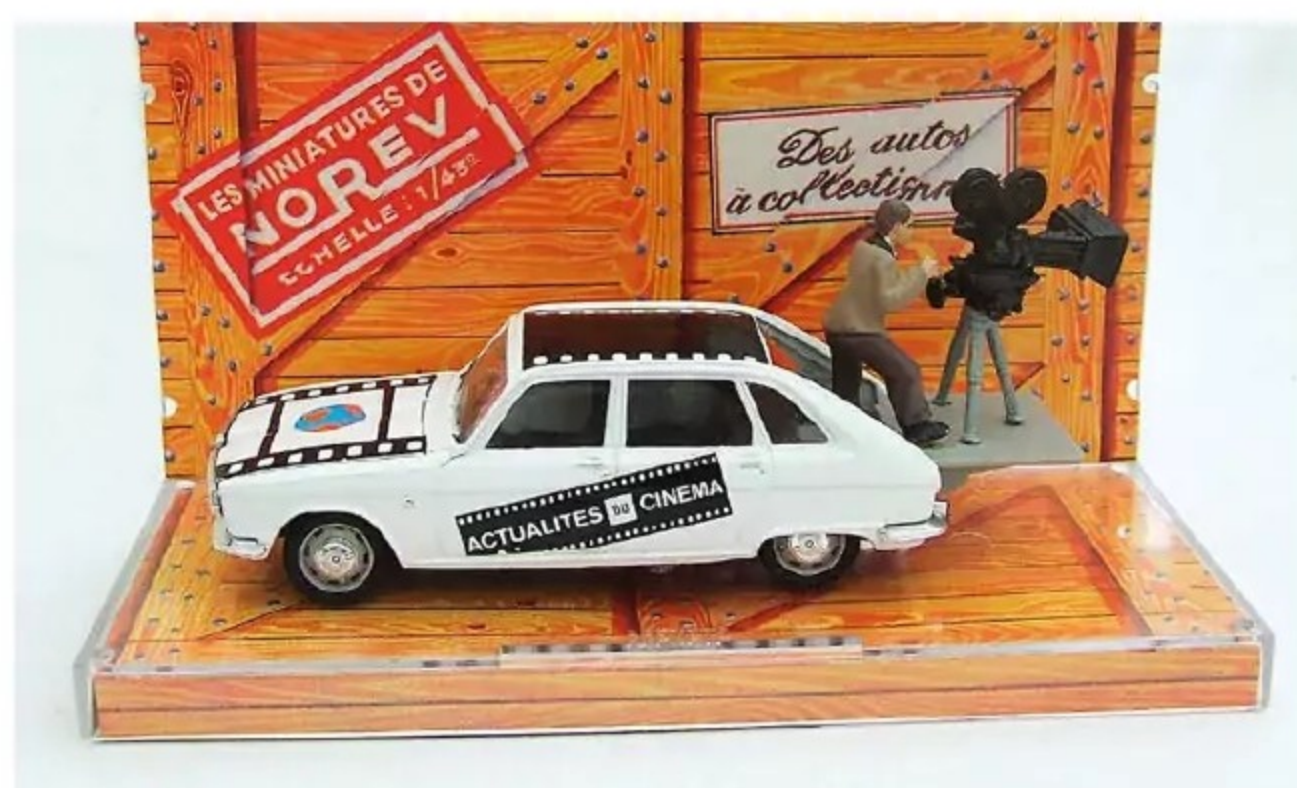
A FEMALE PERSPECTIVE

Hazel Ralston considers the world of model collecting, through different eyes...

Norev goes to the movies

At the time of writing, the 78th Cannes Film Festival has been much in the news, with famous names like French actor Juliette Binoche and American stars Halle Berry and Jeremy Strong being members of this year's jury. Glamorous figures in stunning outfits parade before the photographers on the red carpet – though I was a bit surprised to hear that Helen Mirren's tip on how to look 'cool' at the event was to wear 'bearable' shoes; otherwise, she says, you'll be uncomfortable and that will reflect on your face and posture.

What has the Cannes Film Festival got to do with collecting models? Well, makers of diecast model cars manage to find a link to practically any event and Cannes is no exception. Norev has been notably successful in managing the transition from being a maker of toy cars for children to becoming one of today's biggest names in model cars for adult collectors. The process goes back to 1989 when, under the leadership of Marc Fisher, Norev started recreating some of its



ABOVE
In 1998 Norev reworked their Renault 16 to produce this camera car in Cannes Film Festival finish.

classic models with a more detailed finish.

In 1998 Norev was inspired by the Cannes Film Festival to bring out a Renault 16 finished in white with roof and bonnet decorations imitating the pattern of a section of film reel. At the rear, the hatchback door has been removed (leaving exposed the space where the hinge would have slotted into the window glazing unit) and replaced by an extended platform, carrying a movie camera, tripod and photographer.



All in all, it's quite an attractive ensemble, but if you feel there's something rather familiar about it, you'd be right. This is essentially a reworking of the Corgi Gift Set No.13, a Renault R16 "Tour de France" Paramount film unit based on a vehicle used to film the famous French cycle race. Apart from the different livery and the "Paramount" sign on the roof, the Corgi and Norev are virtually identical. Thus, as one French collector puts it, the R16 pays homage both to the Cannes Film Festival and to a classic Corgi model of the past.

Norev took up the Cannes theme again with a model of a Renault Vel Satis, an executive hatchback used to ferry the celebrities to the various events at the Festival of which Renault was the 'partenaire officielle'. The packaging is really more interesting than the model itself, as it takes the form of a silver tin as used for reels of film; inside, the car is positioned on a stand with steps and a red carpet, and there's a figure of a photographer and a movie camera.

In 1/18 scale, Norev made a Renault Floride cabriolet, complete with a figure of 1950's icon Brigitte Bardot sitting on the bonnet. In 1959 Renault presented Bardot with a Floride and she appears with the car in many publicity shots of the era. Going by Norev's interpretation, it

seems as if Brigitte has taken on board Helen Mirren's advice about footwear, as she's barefoot! ■

ABOVE
Norev's 1/18 scale Renault Floride comes with a figure of Brigitte Bardot.



MBC 5YRS

CELEBRATING 5 YEARS!



OUR 2025 LINE UP

LAST FEW!



**STAGECOACH
LONDON
ENVIRO200**

**PRE-ORDERS
OPEN
SOON!**



**UKBUS
0083
SUPER
LOOP
ENVIRO400
MMC**

**PRE-ORDERS
OPEN
SOON!**



**UKBUS
0082
ARRIVA
KENT
ENVIRO400
FACELIFT**

**COMING
SOON!**



**DUBLIN BUS
TFI LIVERY
ENVIRO500**

**CHECK OUT OUR EXTENSIVE RANGE
OF EFE AND CORGI RELEASES
SPANNING MULTIPLE DECADES!**

**WE BUY COLLECTIONS! LOOKING TO SELL
PART OR ALL OF A COLLECTION? CONTACT
ALEX@MODELBUSESCOLLECTION.COM TODAY!**



**TRANSPORT
FOR LONDON**

**TfL OFFICIAL LICENSED PRODUCT
EVERY JOURNEY MATTERS**

 is a trademark of Transport for London and is registered in the UK and other countries. All rights reserved.

WWW.MODELBUS.UK



SAS

Est. 1991

specialauctionservices.com

Toys for the Collector Auctions



We hold at least ten large toy auctions a year, offering something for everyone, from great rarities to modern toys and models.

We are picking up consignments from around the UK and would be happy to visit.

Please call Dave Kemp, Bob Leggett or Dominic Foster on +44(0)1635 580595 or Dave@specialauctionservices.com

Special Auction Services

Nexus Park, Plenty Close, Newbury RG14 5RL

www.specialauctionservices.com