



**No. 437 August 2018**

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International Federation of  
Slot Car Clubs



THE INDEPENDENT CLUB FOR SLOT-CAR ENTHUSIASTS

## **Diana Francis - Honorary Life Time President** **Reminder Time and Please Note** **Before You Ask**

So this month a bit of a divergence from the usual Editorial ramblings, and more of a public service announcement to all of you members.

Firstly please note if you wish to apply for the Ramsgate weekend applications must be in by the 28th August 2018 for you to be considered. We do still have spaces available and for those that have not attended it is a great weekend with a mix of racing, beer, an auction, a Limited Edition car, a factory shop visit and this year Hornby have assured us they will be there with a presentation and also may be actually doing the auction for us!

Second announcement, this year I am actually have a family holiday and despite my best efforts this is going to be at the time I usually send out the Journal reminder for contributions and when I actually start putting the Journal together, well I actually return on that weekend, so if the next Journal (September) is a bit late you know why and I apologies in advance.

I could ask the house sitter or even the dog to send the reminder out and start the Journal but to be honest they will probably struggle kick starting the Club PC so best left to me upon my return as I have the knack with the starting handle.

Elsewhere in the Journal you will see we have had no applications for the roles available on the Committee, so I guess we are doing something right and you are all happy with the Club running generally and in my particular area of concern the Journal? Of course if not on either case please do get in touch with your ideas or feedback.

Final point for me this month, is you will no doubt notice the year is flying by and that soon a number of events will be upon us, so I hope to see some of you soon again and whilst writing I would like to thank Pendle Slot Racing, Telford Stuart (Typhoon Slots) and Colin Spark (RS Racing) for their recent assistance with a couple of purchases and their usual superb service.

Until next month.

Jeremy



# MESSAGES FROM MARGATE

email: [factory@nsc.co.uk](mailto:factory@nsc.co.uk)

By Pete Simpson

For the last couple of months' reports I have been attempting to show all of the first half year releases whilst also illustrating some of the additional expectations for the period from July until the year end. But, this year's range being so comprehensive, although I've still not completed that task, I thought it was time for a diversion, as hinted in the first paragraph last month.

A key element of Scalextric's financial gains are from the sale of sets, each being tailored to capture a specific market sector: actually, that just means they package track, accessories and cars to sell for different prices so there's hopefully something for most pockets. Nothing new or unethical about the practice: spend a bit more and the returns are better. The most basic sets may contain basic cars, controllers and circuit but they're just what's required as a first step towards turning the whole of upstairs over to a six-lane, digitally controlled replica of the Nürburgring. I can already see the Scalextric team planning their next BIG set.

The sets available this year span the price range from £64.99 for an oval with two generic race cars and 2.5 metres of track to £599.99 for the ultimate in home digital racing. These two require little thought, a true beginner's set or the

biggest available. It's the range of options in between that will cause sleepless nights poring through the catalogue, flicking back and forth to compare the relative merits and deciding how much longer to save the pocket money before the moment of commitment.

## Grand Prix



The ideal first set for any child just has to include F1 cars. Track length is secondary to being able to relate the action on the lounge floor to Sunday's TV coverage. This set being C1385 retailing at £109, is a little more expensive than the Gulf Racing set below but the generic F1 cars are immediately recognisable and easily





distinguished as they speed around the track. Although the two cars are in 2017 livery, they are both similar to their 2018 cousins: the Williams is in the typical Abu Dhabi version of the Martini scheme and the McLaren is adorned with black detailing and Honda livery rather than this year's blue highlights. It would have been nice if the two cars had been a bit further up the grid but doubtless the licensing implications in emulating a Ferrari, Red Bull or Mercedes would have significantly impacted on the retail price.



The set includes the all-important lap counter and 484cm of track, requiring a modest 191 x 132 cm of floor space to enjoy.

There are also two other solo releases of this GP shape, both available now to provide further single seater options: Red Stallion, C3958 and Blue Wings, C3960, each at £25.99.

## Gulf Racing



Even if the two cars are not accurate versions of real cars, applying the famous Gulf colour scheme to the two will help to capture the







imagination of parents and hopefully thereby encourage younger racers into the hobby: the number of 10 year olds that will relate the colours to successful race cars from the past could be questionable but targeting parents with subliminal schemes is a shrewd move. The track included with C1384 is the same as the Grand Prix set above but the retail price is £10 less: not a vast difference but it reflects the slightly cheaper cars.

colourful cars should be appealing to the younger racers, as well as collectors that desire an example of every release. The biggest issue could be who gets the car with the heroic Spartan army and who has to suffer the ignominy of the zombie flesh eaters.



### Urban Outrun

If the budget won't quite stretch to either of the first two sets, then C1379 could be the solution. At a further £10 less than the Gulf Racing set, this example comes with two of the generic GT cars and yet again the same track contents. The

### Endurance

Like the two sets above, this is another than contains the generic "Team" models. Indeed, the cars are the same as in the Gulf Racing sets, varying only in decoration, although the track is somewhat reduced: a single oval of 255 cm of track and no lap counter. C1399 will retail for a true entry level of £64.99. The GT racer and





the Le Mans prototype-inspired cars may at first appeared mismatched but as the chassis configuration for the two is very similar, on a home circuit there is little to choose between the two. A suggested addition would be the sideswipe and leap track expansion pack, C8511. This costs £29.99 and would certainly extend the enjoyment of the basic set: it even comes with barriers to help keep the cars on course.



### American Classics

Although this isn't a new set, C1362 does include a Camaro which has a slightly revised decoration: it has a black roof whereas the solo release of the same car, C2400A, has a plain blue roof. OK, so £143 may be a lot to spend on a set just to acquire a revised livery but there remains plenty of scope to recoup some of the cost: swap the Camaro for another muscle car and present the set to someone deserving as a rather nice present. It has 532cm of track, which has the capability to include the ever desirable over-bridge, and is the lowest priced App Race Control set available.



### Sunset Speedway

I may be wrong but I'm pretty sure that this ARC Pro set, C1388, when I first noticed it listed on the Scalextric website, was titled "Hyper







Cars”: I can’t be sure as the set is not included in this year’s H1 catalogue. The price and cars remain unchanged at £380 for a Jaguar CX-75, a McLaren 720S and a Lamborghini Centaurio. Along with the cars is track including a straight lane changing section, pit lane track, three wireless hand throttles and the ARC Pro base unit to enable race control using a suitable tablet. Being the highest specification of the ARC range, the control system includes plenty of variables to add to the thrill of slotcar racing by simulating tyre wear, fuel usage, weather conditions and KERS. If digital racing seems attractive, then this is an ideal introduction to this 21<sup>st</sup> century form of slotcar control: expansion need not make any aspect of the set redundant as all current Sport track is compatible.

The cars are all Super Resistant with the



traditional black windows and lack of interior but they do have lights at front and rear so have the best of both ranges: almost indestructible bodies but the thrill of being able to race in the dark.



The three cars are unique to the set being in different colours to any solo release: the Lambo is in white with red detailing, the McLaren is in Mauvine Blue and the Jag is in metallic yellow. Of the three, only the Jaguar has the appearance of a cost-constrained set car but this impression is probably caused more by the black windows than any issue with the paint colour.

The sets detailed are only those new to the range for 2018: there are plenty more to cover the full range of possible expenditure and →



interests so some time needs to be allowed for careful consideration prior to any financial commitment.

### **Stock Car Challenge**

This is another set which was not in the H1 catalogue, although news had spread long before the second half listing was formally released. Indeed, I provided details of the set back in the April Journal and images of the cars in June. I can now confirm that it includes banked track sections to capture the thrills of oval racing: in this instance, a tri-oval as mentioned previously.



The two cars are new for 2018 and, although modelled on actual cars, have fictitious liveries. To further expand the racing possibilities, two further solo releases will be available. The set cars are easily distinguished from the solo releases as set cars carry “GM” sponsorship whereas the other two are “Chevrolet”.

### **Cars Only**

To placate those that have no interest in sets, I’ll include details of a few other solo releases in addition to those included above.

### **Pirtek BMW BTCC**

This was first included in the March Journal but only as rendered CAD images from the website. I can now include photographs of the actual model. This is the BMW Series 1 NGTC as







maturity. I've already covered the Limited Edition 198X Le Mans winner but neither of the solo editions. This will probably be the third version to arrive in the UK and, as the prototype still had a few minor details that required attention, I've been requested not to show the whole car: that will have to wait until an acceptable version is available. However, it has still been possible to include a few images of some of the details of the decoration showing just how good it looks and how the film has shrunk into the body details such as door shut-



driven in the 2017 BTCC by Andy Jordan. The finish on C3914 is amongst the best of this year's special surfaces: the chrome-effect surfaces have really made their mark in 2018, accurately portraying some of the more technically advanced appearances as seen on the real cars.

### McLaren F1

The third of the F1 models demonstrates that the water printing technology has reached





lines. Cynics may mumble about Scalextric having only just discovered Humbrol's DecalFix but I'm sure the process would have been perfected earlier if it were that simple!

### New Autograph Models



July witnessed the release of another two of the popular models endorsed by their drivers. C3873AE is the BMW MINI Cooper F56 of Luke Reade and C3783AE is the Honda Civic Type R of Gordon Shedden. Both retail for £45.99 and are likely to be sold out by the time this appears in print. If you have a desire to own models from this range it's necessary to either

receive regular updates direct from Scalextric or register an interest with your preferred dealer as they are generally sold out shortly after being announced.

### Hornby in the News

Despite the announcement in early June that



sales were struggling, hindered by late deliveries caused in part by delinquent planning, investors' confidence seems to be returning. Share prices have recovered from the February low of 20.5p to a healthier figure around 35p, having achieved a 52-week high of 37.5p at the time of writing. It was never going to be an overnight return to the values of three years ago but it's certainly encouraging to witness a steady growth in value. And I can smugly claim to be in a position to profit from the share price increase: I won't yet, however, as I'm confident it will still go higher.

Many thanks to the team at Scalextric for allowing the use of the images, especially those of the box art prior to the addition of the set details. ■



Ciao everyone and welcome to this month's edition of Forza Slot.it. I'm afraid this month is very light on any news as Europe accelerates into its customary shutdown through July and August! However, I did have the opportunity to walk around Rome a couple of weekends ago, as a business trip deposited me there in between working weeks, and so I had time to play tourist and look around to see if I could find any model shops and pick up a bargain or two! Phhaaa, I walked around Rome for two days and "many" hours and found not one model shop. Now this did surprise me as Italy is home to Slot.it and Policar (amongst others) so I figured I would find at least one shop, but that was not to be. Maybe I should have looked on Google first?

Mind you, I did hear that the main man at the Vatican may be holding an all comers race over ten laps so I popped along to the Vatican Square to see if I could blag a race. As you can see, there were quite a few people there to race, the tent structure to shield the track from warping was in place but no one seemed to have cracked open the box and set up the track yet. The Scalextric Ferrari F1 set (guess we know who will probably win then?) was ready for the German F1 GP rerun but I guess that will have



to wait for a little while longer then. Hmm, unperturbed I overheard a couple of other potential disappointed racers mention a rival race down outside the Colosseum so I hot footed it (literally I might add as it was well into 30°+ territory all weekend!) to see if I could get in on the action. Again, sadly, I could see the start of a scenic layout being constructed (not another half built building I thought!) and this time the new Policar set was in evidence. I guess someone has some influence, but it seems, being as it was a weekend then all the activity had stopped. Ah well maybe another day.

OK, onto the none fake news then! Ah, that could be a problem as well, being as there is literally none either! Terry is in the same boat as me as all he has to tell me this month is, and I quote: "Mr Ferrari, told me that the track system is coming along nicely and now has a uniform texture to the surface, full details and pricing will be available shortly." And "The mock up for the first set looks like it will come with the Subaru branded cars inside." So short and sweet. Terry also confirmed that the first GT86 should be with us in September and he will get one over to me ASAP when they hit these shores so that I can give you all a full review, looking forward to that one but it's not September yet. What else can I tell you then?

Errrrr, two new cars released this month⇒⇒







but because of my lack of forethought (well I was a bit busy running round Rome!) I did not get them posted out in time to do a review of for this month, duh! So here I am on the morning of Jeremy's next NSCC Journal copy deadline with not a lot to report! However, next month (even though there will probably still be no manufacturer news) I will be able to bring you a full review of the latest Slot.it SI-CA40A Alfa Romeo 155 V6 DTM ITC car in the stunning Martini livery as run at the Avus Ring race in 1995. Nicola Larini is the featured driver who had quite a colourful F1 career but a much better touring car/ tin top racing stint. I will also give you my thoughts on the other new release this month which is SI-CA36C, the third of the

Opel Calibra V6 DTM ITC cars in the cracking Hassroder Old Spice livery, anyone remember the Old Spice adverts from the 1970's then? This car also ran at the Avus Ring in 1995 as driven by one Keijo Erik "Keke" Rosberg, another old F1 racing favourite of mine as his interviews were generally "BS" free and straight to the point! Anyway, that will have to be next month!

That's all for now, sorry for the lack of content, so I will sign off for now with my continued thanks to Terry at Gaugemaster for his ongoing support of the NSCC and to Slot.it/ Policar for any additional news. Ciao and arrivederci till month. ■





I opened my last Chairman's Chat talking about the hot weather and now a month later it is still with us. It has been an incredibly hot July and as I write this chat there is no sign that it is getting any cooler or that there will be any respite from the heat any time soon. I know that some of you sun worshippers will be loving it but for me I like it a little cooler most of the time. In fact, one of the things that I love about this country is the changing seasons and the variety that they bring to our weather. Especially, the smell of the trees after a fresh rainfall which is one of my particularly favourite times. I guess you can please some of the people some of the time as they say.

One of the consequences of the hot weather has been that I have spent little time working on my new layout. Consequently, work is progressing slowly and nothing exciting to report there. Hopefully after the holidays and moving into the Autumn things may move a little quicker with more free time indoors. For now, I guess we should enjoy the summer whilst it's here and make the most of it.

### **Norman Dewis**

Talking of being outside this summer one of the events coming up locally in a couple of weeks' time is the Bradford Classic Car Show. This annual car show takes place in the centre of the city and gets bigger every year. In addition to classic cars, motor sport is always represented. This event together with the numerous E-Type

anniversary's and my recent purchase of the Scalextric 1963 International Trophy E-Type Twin pack reminded me that ten years ago I had the good fortune to meet and interview the legendary Jaguar test driver Norman Dewis.

Jaguar had brought their famous XJ13 Le Mans prototype racing car together with Norman to the Classic Car Show. That year I was doing an outside broadcast covering the show for a local radio station, interviewing the owners of the cars. Consequently, I was able to interview Norman about his amazing life and the XJ13.

Norman joined Jaguar in 1952 and was their Chief Test Driver and Development Engineer until his retirement in 1985. During that time, he developed nearly thirty different cars for Jaguar. He drove the Jaguar D-Type as one of the works drivers in the 1955 24-Hours of Le Mans and witnessed the horrific crash from the pits that killed 84 spectators. The race was won by Mike Hawthorn.

Norman test drove the XK120 to reach 172.4 miles an hour on the Jabbeke highway in Belgium in 1953.

Then in 1961 he famously drove one of the brand new Jaguar E-Types from Coventry to the cars launch at the Geneva Motor Show, covering the 600 miles in 11 hours at an average speed of 62 miles an hour which was an amazing drive.

Norman also helped to test and developed the XJ13 Le Mans car. The XJ13 was a 5.0 litre V12 cylinder racing car designed to win Le Mans and had enormous potential. Unfortunately, the car never competed at Le Mans due to a rule change and the car became





obsolete in terms of competition. In the 1970's Norman crashed the car whilst testing it and was lucky to survive. Only one XJ13 was ever made and the car is now valued at several million pounds. Look out for it at Gaydon in the Jaguar Heritage Centre. After his retirement Norman continued to work with Jaguar on their heritage programme.



When the interview was finished Norman had lunch with my son Richard and I. Hardly anybody in the restaurant knew who Norman was, so we had him all to ourselves, listening to his experiences of his time working for Jaguar. Norman was an unassuming and down to earth guy with some wonderful stories to tell us from his amazing life.

Norman felt that Jaguar had sold the E-Type too cheaply when they were first produced and that the company should have asked for more money for them. The price for the car should have been set higher. Amazing when you look at today's values, he probably had a point.

During his career Norman is said to have driven over a quarter of a million miles at over 100 miles per hour. That must have been a remarkable ride. Now in his 90s, as most of his generation are fading into history Norman is still going strong. A true legend.

### **NSCC Club Car**

I am pleased to announce that this year's NSCC Club car will be the Scalextric Ford Falcon XW Diamond White - Australian Special Edition.

The Club will be producing this car for purchase by NSCC members at a cost of £50 each. This will be a limited run of 150 cars only.



The car will be available to purchase from September 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 onwards. If you would like one, please complete and return the form which is included in the Journal and return to us on or after the 15<sup>th</sup> September and not before, please also include your payment of a cheque or complete one of the other options, the price is £50 for the car plus postage or collection should also be available at one of the forth coming events after the launch date. Again please indicate on the form the method you wish to opt for to receive the car.

### **Elections for the NSCC Committee**

The return date for nominations to the Committee has now passed. No other nominations have been received apart from the current post holders on the Committee who have all agreed to serve further. Consequently, the current Committee will serve for another two years. We all look forward to moving the Club forward in that time with the support of you the members.

### **NSCC Leeds Swapmeet**

A reminder that the NSCC Leeds Swapmeet will once again be taking place on Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at the Rothwell Sports Centre Leeds. This event is growing year on year and tables are being booked up for the event. Once again there will be a very special Limited Edition car for purchase by members only.

Tables are being booked up quite quickly so if you want to book a table do get in touch. First two table for member will be free. Don't forget that this year's Swapmeet will also see the Clubs new 1/24<sup>th</sup> Scale track in action for the first time. I for one am looking forward to that.

That's all for now until next time. ■



Hello and welcome back to Sideways. Firstly, there was a typo in my last report. I was writing about the Lubrifilm Black Edition BMW M1 and referred to it as a BMW 320 when plainly it wasn't. And I own the model!



So, now to an actual BMW 320, the Eddie Cheever BMW Junior Team car that raced in the DRM in 1977. I mentioned these BMW Junior Team cars in an earlier report when they were first announced and they are now available, retailing just shy of £60 each. Did I just write that? What do you get for your money? It has the usual Slot.it Flat-6 22,000 motor and is in angle winder configuration on



a Sideways motor mount, which can be easily changed to a Slot.it motor mount. The wheels are aluminium at the rear and plastic at the front and have very attractive silver inserts. My model has a few tiny splashes of red paint just in front of the windscreen, which can't be acceptable for a model selling at such a price. However, Eddie's crash helmet is well rendered and his visor is a matt silver and so it isn't spoiled by the strange driver google eyes that many models have i.e. Policar classic grand prix drivers. It would be good if this solution was universally adopted.

The Cheever car, number 11, is reference SW58B, the Marc Surer car number 12 is SW58C and the 13 Manfred Winkelhock car SW58A. Eddie finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the championship with his best result being victory in the division 2 race at the Norisring.

The Lamborghini Huracan made it's debut in the Nascott Wood GT class a few weeks ago and by replacing the Sideways motor with an NSR King Motor Evo 25,000 it went well even when I was driving it, so much so that other members have bought the model. Marc Abbott has kindly provided me with some better photos of the SWCAR01C Gulf edition. I have mentioned this model before; it's a fantasy livery but looks good.

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be producing a flexi or rubber rear aerofoil for the Huracan, which is helpful as it's a very vulnerable part of the car.

More soon and enjoy the summer. ■

Sideways will be releasing Huracans in race liveries; SWCAR01D Orange Team Lazarus is a model of a 2017 car that raced in the Blancpain GT championship. The internet indicates that it raced in the Silver Cup and the drivers were Gustavo Yacaman and Fabrizio Crestani. SWCAR01E is the Team Barwell Huracan. It's not clear whether it is the livery for a particular race but it would appear to be the 2017 Spa 24 hours car as there seem to be four drivers. As so often with Sideways I only have poor quality facebook photos to rely on and no background information. Both models will be supplied with the 17,000 Baby Raptor motor. Mark Long pointed out to me that Sideways will





These current economic times are not very easy for a hobby such as slotcar racing. The influence of many brands and thousands of different products makes it increasingly difficult to choose and to know what the customer really needs. This is why SRC is attempting to enter the slotcar club fraternity and so talking to people, looking for opinions and alternatives in order to assist the hobby to grow.

SRC has put together an agreement for the clubs, to provide fun and excitement for the racers and so people will see a manufacturer that supports and believes in its product. The top class of car is not always the most enjoyable, so we aim to have club races for only one model so the best driver wins, but all competitors can still have fun. We already have several clubs that are enjoying our collaboration and we are now seeing that it is not just about the racing, but, with prizes for the best livery, people are also being encouraged to spend time producing a miniature masterpiece!



We support clubs who organise “open doors” events for potential new members, promoting such a great hobby. We want people to trust the manufacturer and to know that the manufacturer is a fan of the world of slot racing too; therefore we are trying to work to the highest standards possible, with the maximum detail on our cars and producing top quality products. This is because we don't want to sell our customers anything we would not buy for ourselves!







We are inviting UK clubs to “shake hands” with SRC in order to enjoy some of these races.

– What is the motive of SRC?

To grow with the clubs and thus be able to make replicas to the high standards we have set out to achieve.

– How important is this within the hobby?

For the new SRC.EVO2, the most important thing is to instigate and support races, to help these become important and valuable events and to ensure that competitors will enjoy them.

– Can SRC help enough for us to accept that agreement?

Yes, we can help enough and you can get to organise great events with good prizes.

All the information and the agreement can be requested by writing to Dovile Stonaityte at [ds@src.es](mailto:ds@src.es), but below is the agreement in it's proposed form.

## **RULES FOR CLUBS/ ASSOCIATIONS/ TEAMS**

### **1. ELECTION**

Choice of sponsorship and collaboration:

1.1. The Club/ Association must schedule and conduct races with our cars. The poster of the event or championship will be posted on our networks and websites. Likewise, each Club/ Association/ Team will be responsible for advertising the SRC brand if it is possible and

we will share together on our social networks what we manage to promote.

1.2. For the organisation and promotion of major events, SRC will be fully involved. We will study the event and decide on sponsorship.

1.3. The choice of cars will be free by the organisation within the models that SRC has in distribution.

The cars for the participants will be purchased from SRC and we are committed to the following discounts for the initial agreement:

- For an order of 10 or more units we will give you a discount of 10%

- For an order of 20 or more units we will give you a discount of 15%

- For an order of 30 or more units we will give you a discount of 20%

1.4. The choice of the spare parts will be free by the organisation.

The spare parts for the participants will be purchased by SRC and we are committed to the following discounts for the initial agreement:

- For an order of 10 or more units of the same reference as needed.

we will give a 10% discount.

- For an order of 20 or more units of the same reference as needed.

we will give a discount of 15%.

- For an order of 30 or more units of the same reference as needed.

we will give a discount of 20%.

1.5. The prizes will put up by SRC, having reached the minimum entry that we have agreed. The trophies can be sponsored depending on the purchase volumes of each Club/ Association.

1.6. If the stores (shops) or distributors are the ones that sell to the Club/ Association, it will also be sponsored, and the collaboration will be reflected according to the purchase made to said store. SRC will support the store or distributor and help sponsor any slot event.

To “activate” competitions with stores or distributors, SRC will always give support reflecting the commitment of that store or distributor.

1.7. The events that are organised annually at national or international level will be sponsored to an agreed commensurate level to ensure that the winners and competitors have an enjoyable and memorable experience.

## 2. AGREEMENT

2.1. The prizes of each race will depend on the purchases of the CLUB from SRC and in case of a positive one a percentage discount will be agreed of which SRC will take charge. The zero cost for the CLUB will depend on the choice reflected in point 1.3.

2.2. The final championship prizes will be given by SRC and will depend on purchases made during and in that same year.

2.3. Also, the goodwill gestures to the participants may be agreed between SRC and the CLUB. For example; present a certificate/ medal to each driver as a gesture by the brand for having participated.

2.4. The podium, as in real competitions, will be for the first 3 cars of each category.

2.5. The agreement of each Club/ Association/ team with SRC is to make a purchase of material for the championship or races. If the initial purchase does not exceed the minimum, (1.3) SRC will also support but it will depend on purchases of the Club within the brand. Clubs that buy all year will have exceptional benefits recognized by SRC.

2.6. The prizes will always depend on the purchases.

2.7. The collaboration for long-term championships will be for an indefinite period, maintaining an

adequate commercial relationship to cover or satisfy all the people who are involved with SRC.

2.8. SRC will maintain the publicity agreements that are deemed beneficial for both parties, always agreeing together for the good of the participants and the growth of SRC.

2.9. The collaboration managed by SRC will be presented by means of a zero delivery note with the 100% discount. All the data of the Club/ Association/ Team will be reflected in said delivery note to register them in the SRC database with total and absolute privacy. The data will always be used between both parties being personal and non-transferable to third parties, other clubs, associations or teams.

2.10. Important: SRC will be informed of each race with results and registered participants for the proper functioning of the collaboration. It should be that a person designated by each club will, by means of e-mail, keep and forward all the necessary and valid information so that we can manage the order and control of the sponsorship.

## 3. COMMITMENT

SRC is committed to fostering (activate) all races, events and championships for the growth of the brand and for the benefit of whatever is organised. We rely on competitive organisations for the good health of the sector. SRC will always support everything that is organised with us.

## 4. Annexes.

4.1. The discounts specified in points 1.3 and 1.4 for items in the Outlet or Offer section will not apply.

SLOT RACING COMPANY, SL with CIF: B-86506086 and fiscal address Paseo Eduardo Dato n<sup>o</sup>23 2 28010 MADRID - SPAIN, agrees to keep this agreement in force for the good of both parties and collaborate provided that the commercial relationship is respected under these rules of agreement.

Signature and seal SRC: Signature and seal Club/ Association/ Team:

.....





# COLLECTOR'S CORNER

BY MARTIN HEAPS



Hello all, thought I'd kick off this month's article with some cool looking and very interesting cars produced by the factory for prizes.

On page 411 of "The Ultimate Guide" shows a gold Bentley, that was a fully finished example.

This car and a few others I've seen such as a silver Mini, silver Aston and gold Aston to mention a few show how different these cars look in the metallic colours.

The ones I came across were out of a auction at Nesbits in Portsmouth, a very interesting lot with various chromed and gold cars, a Cobra on a presentation base, a cardboard factory holder with Marshals roof lights. Obviously this was from a factory employee as the boxes indicated this as did some of the cars being quite unusual.

The reason for mentioning these cars is that they seem to be becoming very popular with one making on eBay around the thousand pound mark. I know its not all about what something makes price wise but that certainly makes people sit up and look more closely.

First up are a Gold and Silver Aston C68. Both cars are very carefully painted inside and out.



Next is a very interesting looking Bentley in gold with its original Scalextric sticker to the front.



The new Ford GT was a super looking thing it would be interesting to see it in 1:32 scale.

Also the Apollo ie (ie stands for intense⇒⇒



Then here is the photo of the auction lot, some very interesting bits!

This years Festival Of Speed at Goodwood was again a super event with many cool cars no matter what your into.





This is a great looking car and the rear of it wouldn't be out of place in a new Batman movie!

emotion) with its forty thousand pound exhaust tips! it was a real head turner at the event! Wish I could win the lotto!

See the image below, it was hard to get the right photo but you can see the very clever paint job, which was just painted enough so the carbon fibre shows through.





I thought I'd finish off this month with a couple of cars at the Goodwood FOS which have been much loved by Scalextric collectors, the first being the Porsche 904, produced as a kit in yellow and here also the full size version.

Then Another Porsche, the PlayStation GT1, of course this year Porsche were celebrating their 70th anniversary so there were plenty of examples to see at Goodwood.



That's it for this month, lots again for next month all being well! ■



# NSCC CLUB CAR 2018 SCALEXTRIC FORD FALCON XW DIAMOND WHITE

**F**or 2018 we are pleased to announce this year's NSCC Club car, which will be a specially Tamponed Scalextric Ford Falcon XW in Diamond White, which was also an Australian only release and available in the UK in limited numbers.

The car has exclusive NSCC printing on the roof consisting of the NSCC logo and year of issue. It will also have the NSCC limited Edition box insert and will be individually numbered accordingly with either a Card or appropriate sticker on the box. The picture here is of the prototype car.

These cars are strictly limited to 150 units and are available from the 15th September 2018 to NSCC members only by application on the form enclosed with this Journal.

Applications can be made via post and email or in person at an event, but please note the cars are to be sold on a first come first served basis this year, hence the date of applications being taken, thus ensuring all UK, European and Worldwide members have the same opportunity to purchase the car at the same time.

The car is priced at £50 each excluding postage, which will be charged as stated on the application form, of course cars can be collected in person at an event, again as indicated on the form enclosed, the first event being the Leeds swapmeet. ■



# BITS & PIECES

BY GRAHAM PRITCHARD



Wow, I can't believe that I've just typed "August" in this title, I know that I keep saying it, but is time really speeding up in modern times, as if so, then that could also explain why my racing lap times are also slowing down (but I can't go any faster, honest!)?

Anyway, as it's still summer when you're reading this, then unless my regular suppliers have been able to send me some slotcar stuff of their own, then you'll more than likely end up/have to make do with reading about my exploits in the world of slotcars, so let's "kick off" this month with the latest news from Steve Wright about Teamslot and Avant Slot cars, that should be out by the end of August we think, but you know how it is with holidays etc.

## Teamslot Flying Sausage Celica

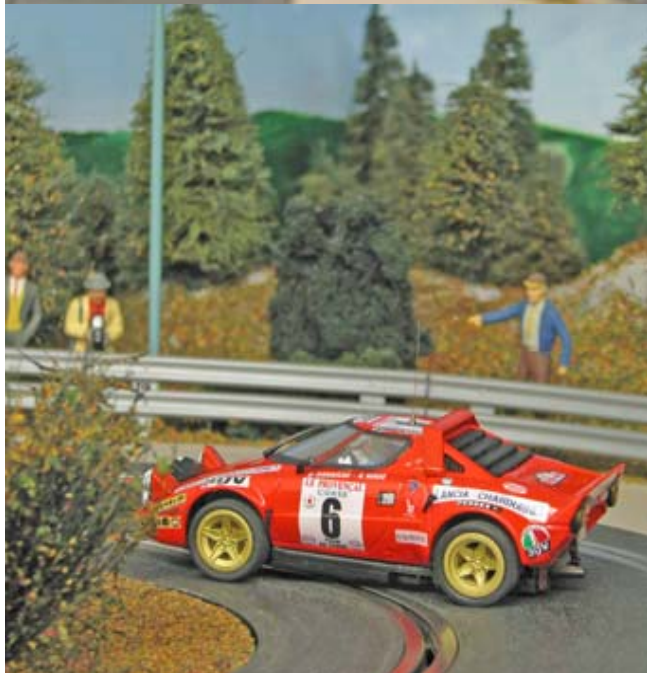
This one has been coming for a long while now it seems, but it is still in date, and as it's also in "Safari spec" with the high exhaust, large mud flaps and the spare wheel on the back. I wonder if they were also going hunting for the meat for the sausages as well then?



Whatever, it is coming soon, and the red Stratos is also out now as well if you fancy another rally car.

⇒⇒





Steve also told me that his exclusive Avant Slot “Andrews” Opel Manta is on the way as well, and this one is bound to sell out pretty



quickly we think, so if you’re into rally cars then as well as having loads to choose from you may also run out of money at this rate if you want all of them!

### **Pattos News**

For those of you that frequent Bruce’s website then you will be very pleased to know that Bruce is now “back in business” (literally) as he’s now returned from his recuperation holiday etc. and is now patiently sitting there waiting for everybody to order stuff again. That’s my words, not his, I must hasten to add.

So, if you’ve never seen the amazing variety of decals and other things that Bruce offers then you’re missing out big time, so next time you get a spare ten minutes or so search on “Pattos Place” and you will be truly amazed, trust me! We couldn’t have done the Alfa 182 without the Patto’s decals, so that’s just one example.

### **Amato Chassis Design News**



“Only one this month” said Angelo, when I asked him recently, but it’s a good one! For the SCX Porsche 911 but it also covers the Reprotech and EXIN Lines versions of it as well amongst others, so there’s plenty of choice out there then if you wanted to do one yourself.



## GP Miniatures News



know is the only DB4 GT to have been fitted with over riders at the factory, and if you also know the chassis No. then maybe Jeremy or Graham will give you a prize? All I know is that it's an Aston Martin and it looks pretty good.

## Useful Tips

I recently spotted this very useful item on the Internet and so I took the plunge and decided to buy one, and I've got to say that it has actually proven to be very useful, hence I thought I'd share it with you now. Basically it just clamps around the top of an aerosol tin of paint and

To be honest, most of what Graham does is wasted on me as I haven't got a clue as to what building is from where, but I'm sure that most of you reading this are better educated than me in that respect, so here's the latest one that he's done, and it's the event board from Reims in the 1950s, and which therefore at least partially explains it then, as I wasn't even born then!

He's also working on this rather nice Aston Martin DB4 GT as well at the moment, which the more observant/ knowledgeable people will







it then feels miles more comfortable to hold and therefore spray. And the spring that holds it on is very strong I can tell you for sure!

It should fit most, if not all of the tins out there even though it says “Rust-Oleum” on it and I’ve used it on the Halfords and Hycote ones without any problems at all so far, so if you’re into spraying your car bodies then it might well be worth having a look at it.

From what I’ve also seen, it seems that the “cheaper” versions of this type of thing are



rubbish and can very often break the first time that you use them, so I decided to go for the “Rolls Royce” one in the first place rather than risk getting a cheap one first and then wish that I hadn’t, so you may want to do that also perhaps?



OK, you’re probably saying “what’s a plastic cutlery draining box got to do with Slot Cars then?”

Well, if you take the top bit off and then screw the base to the side of your track then



you've got a very handy and simple little receptacle in which to put your hand throttle when you come off the track at home and the only other option is to place it on the track itself or drop it onto the floor!



I've been musing this one for a while now to be honest, and when I went to the local "The Range" the other day then as well as getting a tin of Hycote Volkswagen "Brilliant Orange" paint which I wanted for my NSR FIAT 500 Abarth so that I can do my own



Jagermeister livery on it, I also spotted these very handy little plastic tubs as well, and at only £1.99 each then I think that they're a bargain.

They also sell these rather yummy sweets as well, so I just had to buy a couple of packs of those as well, didn't I? So, all in all, a very worthwhile trip to the shops.

## George Turner News



Following on from George's News last month, then this month I can show you some pictures of the Ford Falcon Ranchero Pick-up that George spoke about last month, and rather good it looks too!

Guess what? I want one, so nothing new there then, but then again, I want one of many things that he does!

However, there is also the AMT '61 Falcon Ranchero out there, and yes, I do have one of those already as you may remember from a while ago, but George's one is ever so slightly different, so perhaps that can justify two then maybe? ➡➡







As the weather has been so hot recently then unfortunately it's very effectively killed off my will to do anything to be honest, choosing instead to laze about in front of the fan and the



TV, but then I realised that it was a bit silly almost to waste this good weather so instead of relaying the slabs in the garden as I originally wanted to do this month, then I decided to dig out some of my vast range of un-built resin car bodies etc. and start to paint some of them, as the sun can then harden the paint a bit quicker then hopefully. So, here are a few that I prepared earlier then, as they say.

I also had a quick chat with George before I had to send this to Jeremy, and this is what he told me for this month's report as to "where he's at with what" etc.

*Hi Graham,*

*The main news for this month is the release of our Aston DBR1 Le Mans car. It is our first completely new car for several months and after finding the perfect paint colour for it I think it looks superb.*

*(Multona Autolack, Peinture Auto Car Paint and the colour code is 0668-5, a very nice Metallic Green).*

*We have also released the Falcon Ranchero however it is not completely new as it was based on our existing Falcon kit, I just gave it a new back.*

*The Jeep is now well underway and should be done in a couple of weeks. It is a little bit different for us, so I hope people like it when it is done.*

*Regards George.*





Tadah, the Aston is finally finished then! But I prefer the Rancho to be honest. But then again?

Anyway, as it turned out, there was actually another one up for debate that arose when eBay Nigel sent me his latest contribution for this Journal ahead of the copy date as he usually does, and given that he's now up to the letter "G" then the first thing I said was "You've forgotten to include me!"

However, he did mention "GT Models", and that instantly made me think of George as I was also about to say to him that he'd missed George out as well, but then I wondered whether the "GT Models" that Nigel was referring to was actually "our" George?

So, with only one way to find out I set out on horseback to ride all the way to Southend-On-Sea to ask him, but just as I was about to set off I discovered that the world has actually progressed from the dark ages that people often accuse me of still living in and so I therefore

considered the more modern options that could be used to find out the truth, and having discounted writing a letter then I went with the most modern option that I can actually do which was to send him an email, and the bottom line is that it was not actually "our" George, but a chap called Gordon Tapsell, as Mr. Turner very kindly enlightened me here.

*Hi Graham, the GT models of the '60s was a guy called Gordon Tapsell, so nothing to do with me then. I was about late teens then so only just starting around that time.*

*Regards George*

So, as I said to Nigel then, "mystery solved!" But you've still missed both of us out mate!

## SRC News

Having been chatting with Dovile from SRC via Marc Abbott of Slot Car Magazine for this month Dovile has rather bravely asked if she can go it alone to save clogging up my column with loads of SRC stuff, and I'm happy either way to be honest, so we've left it up to Jeremy to sort it for us, so please check out the latest "SRC News" elsewhere in the Journal as it's well worth reading I can assure you.

Also, for those of you who go Club Racing then you'll definitely want to read it as SRC are very keen to work with the UK Racing Clubs especially, and are therefore very willing "to put their money where their mouth is" and enthusiastically support those who are interested with some great sponsorship and prizes for any SRC racing events that people may organise in the UK, as Dovile says here.

## Calling All Slot Car Clubs!

Slot Racing Company are very keen to work with clubs around the world to push the boundaries of competition. We have devised a set of guidelines that might possibly help you and your club members to organise competitions throughout the following months. If you have an interest, please contact Dovile Stonaityte (Community Manager) directly at SRC and I will be happy to work with you. Email: [ds@src.es](mailto:ds@src.es) ➡





## **Prof. Motor News**

As mad as this may sound, but I was totally surprised when I spent a few minutes on the Professor Motor website recently as like many of you out there I had heard about the Professor Motor Hand Controllers but I was not actually aware of anything else that they sold to be honest.

As well as the various pictures in the main area of the “Home Page” that you can click on as direct links to those manufacturers and featured products, then also buried amongst the various other links on the LHS of the page where the “New Items” one is there are also two drop down menus that cover all of the brands that they stock labelled “A-O” and “P-Z”.

When you look at that list then it’s vast! Yep, you guessed it; I missed those at first and just clicked on the pictures thinking that was all of them.

So, if you’ve got nothing better to do for ten minutes or so then why not have a look? And I bet you spend longer than ten minutes on it like I did. I also asked Brad if he had any news for us this month and this is what he had to say.

*Hi Graham,*

*Some new products of note are the Ninco Digital pit-lane kits and dual lane-change tracks. These have been unavailable for a while, but we have had Ninco make them again.*

*Also available are some hydro-dipped controller handles to dress up your Professor Motor controller.*

*Finally, some high quality driver heads and figures from Immense Miniatures are now available too.*

*Like Graham says above, it is always worth checking the “New Items” link in the LHS menu!*

## **And Finally**

When I first sent all of this to Jeremy then it didn’t actually have an “And Finally” bit as I couldn’t think of anything to go in there to be honest, but then when I was sending the pictures over to him and I looked at George’s website I just couldn’t resist doing this as an add-lib as it was perfect!

Bottom line is that it’s another perfect “Georgism”, so I’ll quote it directly, but I know what he means as we’ve tried it when it’s very warm and the resin just goes off too quickly, so you just have to give up, trust me.

*‘It’s Hot*

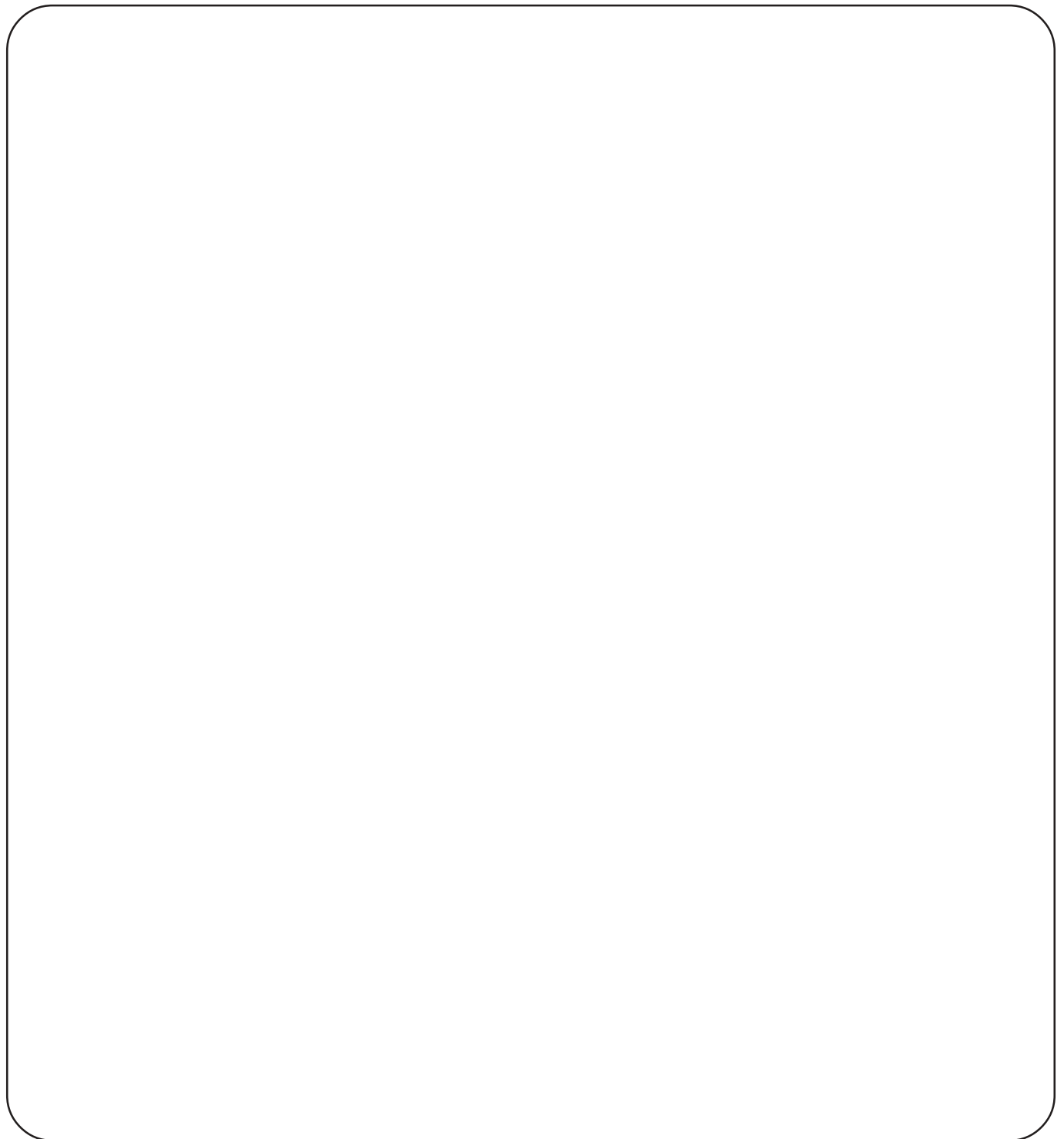
*26/07/2018*

*Just a little addition to the news: Due to the heat in the UK and the fact that our casting area is in a shed in the back garden, it is proving tricky to keep up with casting at the moment.*

*We are carrying on but we may be a little bit slower than normal. So carry on ordering but be aware it’s f’ing hot.”*

OK, I think that that rounds it all up then for this month, so with many thanks to

everybody above for this month’s contributions and it has meant that you haven’t had to read about my stuff that much after all this time in the end, have you? So, see you next month if all goes to plan with more “Bits & Pieces.” ■





**G** is for Gama, Gar-Vic, GB Track, Ge-Ge, General Hobby Company, GGN, A.C.Gilbert, GP Miniatures, Grand Prix Models and GT Models.



Gama began making tinplate toys in Furth, Germany in 1882, continuing with these until injection moulded plastic models were introduced in the 1960s. The Gama Rallye range of slotcars had plastic bodies upon interchangeable metal chassis. Their orange Ferrari was mistakenly labelled as a 275GT, but is in fact a model of the 1964 Ferrari 250 GTO.



The Gama 1/32 range included Brabham Repco, Cooper Maserati, Ferrari 158, Honda and Lotus Formula One cars, and Ferrari "275GT" and Matra 630, McLaren MBA Can-Am, Opel GT 1700, Porsche Carrera 6, Porsche 911 RSR Turbo and Porsche 924 sports cars. Their 1/24 range included Brabham Repco, Cooper Maserati, Ferrari 158 and Lotus

Formula One cars, plus Chaparral 2F, Ferrari Dino 206, Porsche Carrera 10 and Porsche 907 sports cars.

Gar-Vic are attributed with being one of the Californian Companies that sprung up to make a quick Buck during the peak years of the 1960's slotcar boom. After starting supplying components, they graduated to a full kit of the Ford GT40. They then jumped on the Thingie bandwagon, with their Firebird twin canopy version of the General Motors Turbine Car. Further Thingies followed, until the final Gar-Vic model in 1967, of the McLaren MkII.

GB Track was an entry level branding exercise by Fly, possibly as a marketing exercise but also possibly to accommodate Spanish taxation laws, being made in the factory next door to Fly by a separate division of the Company.

Ge-Ge was formed in France in 1933, and developed various plastic models in the 1950s before making slot cars from 1959 to 1964. In 1/43 scale these included a Citroen DS 19 and Simca Ariane, while in 1/32 scale the range included BRM, Cooper, Ferrari 156, Gordini, Lotus 25 and Porsche 804 cars. There was also a Horse and Sulky.

General Hobby Company (GHC) were a distributor who commissioned MPC to make a couple of hot rod slot cars for them – "Little Joe" chopped Ford '32 Coupe and "Big Go" Willys Coupe. Apparently they were popular due to their aluminium side-winder chassis and wheels, and Dyn-O-Can motors.

The Grand Prix 1/24 series of models were sold by Georg Grotzsch of Norimberga (GGN) in Germany, who were already famous for quality plastic mouldings. Their 1965 range included a Ferrari 158 in red, and a Lotus Formula One car in Green.

AC Gilbert invented his metal erector construction sets in 1911, apparently being inspired by girders used on the railroads of New



York. This was, of course, 13 years after Frank Hornby had invented Meccano. A major competitor to Meccano for many years, the Meccano Company eventually bought AC Gilbert in 2000.

Originally called the Mysto Manufacturing Company until 1916, AC Gilbert manufactured a clockwork racing car and other vehicles during World War I, and bought the American Flyer Manufacturing Company in 1938. Early Erector manuals also showed ideas for racing cars in trough shaped tracks, which a number of manufacturers used in the late 1930s.

This was the same decade that Lionel arranged model train races in American department stores. By the 1950's such races using "Blue Comet" Lionel train sets were sponsored by AC Gilbert. This could be a good time to show you the impressive Lionel Turbo Car I spotted last week at a model railway

exhibition in Alvechurch. A forerunner of the Atlas and Triang Turbo Cars featured last month, perhaps?



In his book *Model Raceways and Roadways*, Louis H. Hertz suggests model car racing then took over because it was more realistic, and the change happened without any objections from Railway Modellers. Louis does mention a revival of train racing by the Toy Train Operating Society in the mid 1960s, and even suggests a suitable track layout. In the 1960s, AC Gilbert made their Autorama slotcar sets, which Richard Dempewolf noted in his book *Table-Top Car Racing*, were to 1/32 scale but that the scale was only approximate, not exact. Richard was familiar with their Corvettes, Ford Hot Rods, Pick-up Trucks and Indy Cars, while perhaps one of the most sought after AC Gilbert sets is the HO Scale James Bond set they later





produced, which features a scenic diorama for James to save the World in while driving his Aston Martin.

Graham Poulton has been professionally making exquisite Aston Martin models under his GP Miniatures brand for some years now, but has recently branched out into making realistic kits of the classic race track buildings from around the World, in both 1/43 and 1/32 scale.

Grand Prix Models made 1/32 scale acetate bodysells that were distributed by the Model Car Racing Centre in London from 1967 to 1968. These included bodies for the Brabham Repco, Cooper-Maserati, Eagle Weslake, Lola T70, Lotus BRM, Lotus Elan, Lotus Europa, and Lotus 49.

GT Models made a much larger range of 1/32 and 1/24 scale acetate bodysells from 1967, far too many to list here in fact.

Let's see how the above makes are faring on eBay these days:

### **Gama eBay Top Ten**

1. Gama Silver Ferrari 275 GT £26.44 (173098789582).
2. Gama Orange Ferrari 275 GT £18.94 (273321305704).
3. Eight new urethane tyres to fit Gama cars £12.73 (252423784781).
4. Another Gama Silver Ferrari 275GT £10.61 (323232188045).

Surprisingly, only these four Gama items sold on eBay recently. I hadn't realised they could be had so cheaply, or they were as rare as it appears, unless those collectors that have them are keeping hold of them. There may not be many, but they have certainly gone far, with the three Gama Ferraris being sold from Portugal, Mexico and Spain, while the modern replacement tyres were sold from France.

### **Gar-Vic eBay Top Ten**

1. Gar-Vic 1/24 Red Firebird GTX 1000 Thingie £150.75 (382507758836).
2. Gar-Vic 1/24 collection of parts including three bodysells including Sonic Needle and Firebird Thingies, plus Cox Cheetah £140.14

(401559447819).

3. Gar-Vic 1/24 Orange Sonic Needle Thingie £101.89 (113002928975).
4. Gar-Vic 1/24 Teal Green Sonic Needle Thingie £98.48 (153020078727).
5. Gar-Vic 1/24 Lemon Green Sonic Needle Thingie £75.75 (263774194605).
6. Gar-Vic 1/24 Gold Lunar Thingie £69.69 (372285431023).
7. Gar-Vic 1/24 seven pairs of wheels & tyres £57.57 (232734094963).
8. Gar-Vic 1/24 Indy Car Thingie £53.78 (152993617863).
9. Gar-Vic 1/24 Gold Corvette plus two chassis £48.38 (123089777126).
10. Gar-Vic 1/24 Green Trinity Champion Thingie £46.21 (152993593000).

Quite a lot of Thingies there then, at some substantial prices.

### **GB Track eBay Top Ten**

1. GB Track seven Chevron B19 and B21 cars including Niki Lauda B19 Undisclosed Offer below £125.00 (153009351255).
2. GB Track six Porsche 917s Undisclosed Offer over £60.00 (153009376547).
3. GB Track Silver MAN TR1400 Truck £60.00(273090668224).
4. GB Track Lancia Beta Monte Carlo 1980 £39.99 (222141471224).
5. GB Track Yellow Mercedes Benz Truck £37.10 (332639811720).
6. GB Track Black & Silver Sisu Truck 1998 £37.10 (332639812437).
7. GB Truck Black Bridgestone Sisu Truck £35.00 (332635807209).
8. GB Track Yellow Bosch Mercedes Benz Truck £35.00 (332635807674).
9. GB Track Green & Orange Porsche 917 Spyder £34.99 (302453833426).
10. GB Track Chevron B21 White & Blue Dijon 1972 £29.99 (232562952342).

Well it looks like the Chevrons are both numerous and popular, but so it appears are Porsche 917s and GB Track trucks.

Due to the GB in my eBay search, a Scalextric Team GB Velodrome 2012 Olympics Track Cycling Set crept into the results too,



having sold for £29.00 (192562294748). A respectable price, considering that eBay seemed to be flooded by these sets at very low prices for some time. Perhaps their value has started to rise now? Probably just wishful thinking, as I have a couple of these sets stashed on top of the wardrobe. As a lifelong cyclist, I couldn't resist obtaining them when they came out.



No Ge-Ge, General Hobby Company or GGN slot cars have sold on eBay recently.

### AC Gilbert eBay Top Ten

1. AC Gilbert HO Blue James Bond Aston Martin and Red Mustang £224.19 (232768132454).
2. AC Gilbert HO Red James Bond Aston Martin £121.17 (232768136394).
3. AC Gilbert HO James Bond Set (incomplete) £104.16 (123079651160).
4. AC Gilbert Auto Rama Jalopy Set with Yellow & Blue Cars £94.68 (323224156837).
5. AC Gilbert Harness Racing Horse & Sulkies Racing Set £76.13 (163066490144).
6. AC Gilbert Auto Rama Jalopy Set, Red & Blue Cars Undisclosed Offer over £75.74 (292382318187).
7. AC Gilbert Two Chicanes & Fly-Over Bridge £75.74 (382436992916).
8. AC Gilbert Auto Rama Set with Red & Blue Indy Cars £68.18 (273202322869).

9. AC Gilbert Auto Rama Jalopy Set, Yellow & Red Cars £56.81 (163102366181).

10. AC Gilbert Grandstand Kit £45.44 (382249582985).

With first place taken deservedly by the James Bond Set Cars, it looks like the Jalopy Set is popular too. Good price achieved by the Grandstand Kit.

### GP Miniatures eBay Top Ten

1. GP Miniatures Aston Martin DB4GT Zagato 1961 Kit £54.59 (192533492132).
2. GP Miniatures Aston Martin DB4GT Zagato 1959 Kit £36.55 (192526359725).
3. GP Miniatures Aston Martin DB4GT LM 1959 Kit £33.96 (192517931963).
4. 1/43 Reims Buildings Starter Pack (Grandstand, Pits & Press Box) £50.40 (152994298539).
5. 1/43 Goodwood Buildings Starter Pack (Grandstand, Pits & Clock Tower) £50.40 (202072798104).
6. 1/32 Le Mans ACO Towers Kit £39.74 (152981016754).
7. 1/32 Goodwood Clubhouse Kit £34.89 (153008460149).
8. 1/32 Reims Grandstand Kit £33.92 (202193419908).
9. 1/32 Road America Pagoda Kit £29.99 (202213181148).
10. A 1/32 Reims Press Box Kit £27.99 (152927190899).

All the above building kits were sold on eBay by "Greenhills Garages". Graham's kits really do look fantastic, being true to scale they do take up quite a lot of room on a compact circuit though perhaps one of the reasons they are also available in 1/43 scale.

I could not find any Grand Prix Models or GT Models bodysells selling on eBay recently. While using eBay this month I've noticed a couple of "improvements" that I don't like, I had an Airfix kit returned by a buyer for no good reason, and much to my surprise as the seller I was forced to recompense the "buyer" for the cost of the return postage, as well as the kit itself and initial postage fee. In the good old days the buyer would have been responsible for the return postage at least, which did discourage unnecessary returns. I noticed the buyer transacted through eBay France, so maybe eBay UK is not so bad.

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I also discovered when trying to view sold items now, that eBay decides to automatically take me to a similar item that is still for sale instead. To get back to the sold item you have to click on the word “listing” near the top left hand corner of the alternative item. Maybe this type of automatic re-directing will become more prevalent in future as artificial intelligence continues to gain hold, my mobile phone already decides to tell me how long it is going to take me to drive to work or back home sometimes, without me ever asking it to. It has also even started giving me unwanted football results too!

### Monthly Worldwide eBay Top Ten

1. Novo Scalextric USSR made Blue Lamborghini Muira £2,795.00 (232840107481).
2. Monogram 1/24 The Assassin Can-Am style Thingie £2,153.51 (302798914173).
3. Scalextric 124 Sets 200 and 210 including two green E-Type Jags and a blue Alfa Romeo £1,500.00 (202355925181).
4. Scalextric Vintage James Bond Set (Incomplete) Undisclosed offer over £900.00 (202349530780).
5. Scalextric Jaddam SL32 Digital Set with Four Cars £899.95 (391047433201).
6. Strombecker Cumberland Set including six and a half cars in various scales £885.43 (382512160845).



7. Aurora HO T-Jet Orange & Black Dodge Charger £877.80 (123259243513).
8. Jugarama (Mexican Strombecker) Blue Mercedes 300 £684.07 (163118110031).
9. Jugarama (Mexican Strombecker) Yellow E-Type Jaguar £679.34 (113106186128).
10. French Scalextric Set 60 with Blue Aston Martin DB4GT and Red Ferrari 250GT £630.01 (323322326108).

The blue Novo Muira looks very nice, even though it is missing it's tyres and only has the small can Johnson motor. I have a couple of Scalextric Muiras myself, but only in two shades of yellow.

The Strombecker Mercedes and E-Type, made under licence in Mexico, look nice too. I have a future project Strombecker E-Type Jag but as you can see, it has had a much harder life than the one on eBay. ■

