

THE OXFORD DIECAST COLLECTORS CLUB

# GLOBE,

PRODUCED FOR THE OXFORD DIE-CAST COLLECTORS CLUB

DAN DARE

PILOT OF THE FUTURE

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VE DAY-FREE ANNIVERSARY MEDAL SEE PAGE 7 FOR MORE DETAILS

Issue 65

#### UK & EIRE Guineas (£2.10) USA \$5.00



The Eagle ran for 991 issues from April 1950 until its demise in 1969 and - with a circulation of over a million copies a week - was Britain's best selling post war comic. The Dan Dare strip - in one form or another - was a fundamental part of the Eagle and, for many years, was the front page story. Dan made his debut as the lead character in The Eagle adventure comic on April 14th 1950. He was created by Frank Hampson, who wrote most of the stories and oversaw

Hampson, who wrote most of the stories and oversaw the art for the first ten years. The bright, exciting strips

with their thrilling tales of adventure on exotic planets - in full colour - were an instant hit. Many of Dan's exploits took place on Venus, a divided planet, inhabited by the emotionless Treens and their meglomaniac leader The Mekon in the north, and the peaceable Therons in the south. A wizened, tiny figure who travelled on a personal flying saucer, The Mekon was physically feeble, but made up for this with his huge intelligence. This is by far one of the most requested characters that has appeared on Oxford Diecast vehicle. Many will remember the CC001 which featured The Eagle. Dan with his good looks and clean cut could easily be mistaken for TAFF!

### CRAZY PRICES LANDROVERS

We've decided to offer you some extra special prices on Land Rovers this month. You'll be able to buy a six pack of 1:72 scale Landrovers for £4.95 - but what's more you can include the pack in the 6 for 4, and 4 for 3 special purchasing - see page 2 for more details. We've also got some three pack Landrovers 1:43rd scale which you can have for just £9.95 and when you buy one pack we'll send you another pack absolutely free - see page 4 for details.









1:72 Scale

BETTER VE DETAILS - FREE MEDAL PAGE 7

New Releases

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More Releases

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CRAZY PRICE

Landrovers & Cars

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Recent Releases

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Taff





Special Correspondent

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT



DISCOVER

1





#### Pack A

Fire Brigade AA Service Army RAC UN Safari

We only have limited number of these packs available to you and you can include them in your 6 for 4 and 4 for 3 purchasing. One pack of 6 counts as one Oxford Diecast model, so they are going to be very popular at this price and depending on demand we may have to restrict them to one pack of each per member. We also will require a £0.50 contribution towards p&p for each pack purchased.

Include these packs in 6 for 4 & 4 for 3 purchasing. One set of six Landrovers is equivalent to one Oxford Diecast model.

It may benecessary to restrict quantities per member on these items as we expext a large demand





CIG065 Red label Edition 2,000

WILDOBINE"
WOODBINE"
RED LABEL

The name Wild Woodbine had originally been used for a relatively minor brand of smoking tobacco for export. It was one of the first mass-produced, low priced cigarettes manufactured on the new Bonsack machines bought by Wills from James Bonsack. It was the only machine that could deliver the cost and speed required to produce the volumes demanded. In 1891 53 million were produced and two years later this output had trebled. The distinctive Woodbine pack was shown by us first on CIG007 which we launched nearly five years ago and sold out within the first year of lease.

The Woodbine Red Label brand incorporating a certain amount of cheaper Commonwealth leaf, was introduced in May 1939, after the price of Woodbine had gone up for the first time in nineteen years. The Red Label brand was intended for sale at the old price in vending machines, but did not catch on and was withdrawn in November 1942, when prices had to go up again.

The design of the original *Woodbine* pack changed little for the first fifty to sixty years, but in the 1950's the inverted commas around Woodbine were removed and soon after 'Wild' was removed and by 1966 all that was left of the original design was a sprig of vegetation on two colour flat stripes. CIG065 is a Bedford with an edition of 2,000.



## RENAISSANCE . CHANCERY COURT LONDON



We are all pleased to see this model finally released as we are often asked of its whereabouts. A small edition of 650 with only 300 available to members so first come first serve. The hotel boasts 7 floors, 345 rooms, 13 suites, 12 meeting rooms and 11,724 sq m of total meeting space. Taff has already tried to get a free overnight stay here without success - we feel a Travelodge is more his standard!!



## A word from Michael

Another packed Globe and I do like the Dan Dare model featured on the front cover. It's interesting to compare this with the Rainbow vehicle featured on Page 4. In thirty years there was such a change, but compare that to today and I really think we have lost something. The Landrovers make an interesting change and they are such good value for money, I wonder if Taff has got his sums wrong!

Next month we have a special Johnnie Johnson Spitfire-high quality.

Check out the order form as we offer for the last time some of our old Bullnoses

Until next time





Housed in a splendid old Victorian warehouse of 1897 on the banks of the Grand Canal, Tullamore Dew Heritage Centre celebrates the history of one of Ireland's favourite beverages. It was back in 1829 that production began of Tullamore's most famous export Tullamore Dew. The "Dew" part of the name came from the initials of Daniel Edmond Williams, the man who would later own the distillery and promote the virtues, and the sale, of his superb Irish whiskey and the magnificent liqueur, Irish Mist.

These memorable beverages are no longer produced in Tullamore, but the Tullamore Dew Heritage Centre houses a

lively and interactive exhibition where the various working stations of the distillery have been re-created.

A wide variety of models, panels and audio visuals record the history of whiskey production in Tullamore and of the town itself. Like so many towns during the Industrial Revolution, Tullamore's prosperity was fuelled by the arrival of the canal. The Grand Canal is an awe-inspiring feat of 18th century engineering and linked Tullamore directly to the rich markets of Dublin and from there to markets abroad.

Exhibits recall key events in the town's history such as the arrival of the barracks in 1716, and the balloon fire of 1785. This caused immense damage but allowed Lord Tullamore, a mere 21 years old at the time, to redevelop much of the town. The tour of the Centre concludes with a

complimentary glass of Tullamore Dew Irish Whiskey or Irish Mist Liqueur thus providing an opportunity to understand why both beverages are so popular amongst the world's connoisseurs.

The shop displays an array of these famous products and associated merchandise which includes our Tullamore Dew van. Some of the edition will go to the Heritage Shop with the balance being sold through our own collectors club. This makes a nice edition to the Tullamore Dew vehicles already produced, but as a promotional vehicle we have coded it in the Bedford range.

Lovely Stuff - just like Nectar - says Dusty!



**IRISH WHISKEY** 









The 1930s were undoubtedly the golden age of the comic, with a large number of titles in publication ranging from Tiny Tots (1927-1959), aimed at the 'nursery market', to Crackers (1929-1941) for older children. The name will be

unfamiliar to many, but at the time this was very popular. I purchased a few copies from the 1930's and 1940's for £3 each which I didn't think was too bad. At the same time I picked up a library copy of the Rainbow - bound with about 30 copies for £80. CC032 is part of a double helping of Comic Cuts this month.



You can use this model this month in your 6 for 4 and 4 for 3 purchasing.



VOLVO V70 STOCKHOLM TAXI

You can use this model this month in your 6 for 4 and 4 for 3 purchasing.



TURNBULL HAWICK

You will remember the Turnbull model from a few years back. We have recently done a small promotional run of 500 but this time with a Canvas back. We have 250 available to members. This old brewery dates back to the mid 19th century and they brewed in Scotland to appease the English visitors. Naturally, one thinks of whisky as the only drink to come from north of the border but Turnbull Hawick enjoyed considerable success with their ale. Whilst being targeted at the English visitors (and we guess Welsh, so as not to leave you

visitors (and we guess Welsh, so as not to leave you out Taff) it had a big following in Scotland too.



C070 Turnbull Hawick Edition 500



SOURCE SON

Original cylinders were Black with Grey Pad Printing

MESH The original Value AAOD had a

The original Volvo A40D had a mesh printing on the rear of the cab window. This has been removed on later variants including the official Motorart product.

Some of you were mystified at the price we charged for the EC280 recently. Well here we have a second occurrence of the same thing. A high end product in a low end box. We have been assured by Motorart that this will never happen again!. This time it's the A40D and, like the last, I was involved in its development which took place in 2000. This has a propshaft missing which is not easily noticed unless studying the model in a little detail. I picked it up quite quickly and I suspect that somewhere along the line these were assembled and possibly rejected. A real problem if you are a factory manager. So you pack them in a different box and cross your fingers, hoping that you won't be found out. Unfortunately they didn't bank on us !!! The message is get it while you can, otherwise there won't be any left. We've picked up a few hundred for you and you can have one for £5.95.



Here are some of our Mini Minis 1:72 scale which makes them just over 1½ long and each comes on a plinth in a box. There are six colours red, white, black, blue, green and silver and the six together make an attractive little set. In this Globe we are offering the complete set of six models for £5.95. We ran out of them a few Globes ago so we've brought in more stock to cover demand.

**CODE: MINISMAI** 













These really are nice
Landrovers - 3 in a pack for just
£9.95 and when you buy 1 pack
we'll let you have the other
pack FREE, all we ask is an
extra £1.50 to cover the cost of
postage. So you get the two
packs for just £11.45. They are
1:43rd scale with moveable
front wheels and they are very
nice. We only have limited
quantities - so when they are
gone - they are gone!





What a lovely pack this is, three 1:43rd cars, a Morgan, a Lotus Europa and a Capri. In the seventies the Ford line up was I believe at it's best - Escort, Cortina Granada and Capri and all these original cars were manufactured in the UK. This lovely set is available at £9.95.

## STOCK TAKE LEFTOVERS- first come first serve

As always when completing our stocktake we find all sorts of items, some in the wrong boxes and some that mysteriously reappear and this month is no exception. So the following are available on a first come first serve basis. From the Homeguard Set 4, 24 Air raid Warden, 38 Platoon Trucks and 39 ARPS. From the Dunkirk Set 6 - 31 Beachmaster, 31 Dunkirk Chevs and 29 Wild Swans.

# MEMORY LANGE

## SOME OF TAFFS FAVOURITES, THOUGHTS and RAMBLINGS



Editor: We have lost one member so far who corrected Taffs grammar and cancelled his membership - who'll pay Taff to stop !!!!

## BILL HALEY AND HIS COMETS





One, two, three o'clock, four o'clock, rock, Five, six, seven o'clock, eight o'clock, rock, Nine, ten, eleven o'clock, twelve o'clock, rock, Taffs gonna rock around the clock tonight.

VW018 Bill Haley Edition 2,000

## THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS



I went to Pitlochrie when I was young and fell in love with Scotland, there was some sort of Power Station on the river and I always remember seeing the fish swimming up the 'ladder'. I had a summer job there as a waiter in a hotel when I was sixteen. I think the name was Bonskeid House or something similar. They told me to peel the potatoes with a machine, they didn't however tell me when to stop, by the time I'd finished my first day they were everywhere. Tried my luck as a waiter without much luck, finished up polishing the floor - I was really good at that!

**GR014 GORDON HIGHLANDERS Edition 1,500** 

A few comments on this model, it does look a bit plain, probably because it should have had a black masked roof. It slipped through without me realising, by the time I'd noticed the production run had finished. I can't be perfect always can I?

Editor Says: No Comment



CIG064 Toss Edition 2,000

#### ROBIN STARCH

If you can name the other Robin vehicles then I will let you have a model that I sampled wrongly. It's the Tullamore Dew shown on page 3. Due to an error on my colour coding the first samples came off the line in military green!! Not the Tullamore Dew green. First name out of hat on April 15th wins

Send applications to
Oxford Diecast Ltd
Dept 'TAFF is the best'
PO Box 62
Swansea

SA1 4YA



CS031 Robin Starch Edition 1,500



'I've only ever taken part in one boxing match and I gave my opponent a right punching. Unfortunately, through no fault of my own my adversary had a lucky punch and knocked me out in the second round. I've never forgiven her for that and I'm sure if there were a rematch today then I would be the winner!



MAG015 Boxing News Edition 2,000

## **Inverness®**

I've never been to Inverness, but I have been to Kircaldy. I'm always amazed at the various ways I've heard this name pronounced. The correct way is phonetically KERR COD E. I know this is correct as the waitress who worked in the hotel mentioned above lived there. When I left the hotel I gave her my phone number which I presume she lost as she hasn't rung.



RM078 Inverness Edition 2,000

#### "Taffs In Love Again"



VW017 Lonnie Donegan Edition 2,000



We had a coal fire when I was young. It was always exciting when the coal was delivered as we had a coal cellar. My brothers would find it very funny to tell me to stand underneath the chute just as the delivery was taking place, then I'd emerge black from head to tail. I wasn't stupid they only caught me with that little trick eight or nine times.



CS030 Zebra Edition 1,500

#### 본 ISLE OF MAN 관

Having produced this for Peter on the Isle of Man I lost his details so we only ended up sending this and the other model in the middle of March. My apologies to all those waiting patiently in the Isle of Man. When despatching the stock it was classified as Area 8 for delivery. It sounded like that Area 51 in the USA where they reckon they keep the aliens. Anyway when I spoke to the transport company they said they were not prepared to discuss the classification with me, which sounds very suspicious, what are they hiding and are there in fact aliens on the Isle of Man. Peter, we need to know what's going on and are you involved in the cover up?



RM079 Isle of Man Edition 2.000



As you'll be aware the 60th anniversary of VE day is approaching and we have a number of items scheduled, including vans. Everyone will have the chance to get a FREE commemorative medal. When you place an order this month you will receive a voucher (Globe 65 voucher) and the same next month (Globe 66 Voucher). Presenting both vouchers will entitle you to a FREE medal when placing an order in Globe 67. If any are left then you will be able to buy them in Globe 68 at £7.95 each. They come in a presentation pack as illustrated below.







Still some of these left so if you want a pack of five 1:43rd Scale Minis then they only cost £9.95 each - choose Plain or Rally Set



This was the first item we found in the wrong box, as discussed on page 4 and featured in Globe 63. We ran out of stock, but the second batch has now arrived. So if you were disappointed then give the office a ring and they'll send one out to you.

## THE HISTORY OF TAFF AND OXFORD DIECAST

The New Year meant a movement away from the factory floor and into the production offices. The age of the computer had arrived and Mettoy was one of the first companies in the area to splash out on a mainframe. It cost a lot of money I seem to think £500,000. It was fitted into a large air-conditioned room. probably about 60 sqft, that was cleaned from floor to ceiling every 24 hours. Apparently it had enough computing power to run the whole of Swansea. The production control facilities depended on this monstrosity and I soon learnt that many people hid behind it. If something went wrong then it was the computers fault. Most people were scared of it as they simply didn't understand what it did. The Production Control office was made up of two Range Controllers, one that ran Corgi (big Cars/vehicles) and one that ran Corgi Juniors (Small Vehicles). It was their job to ensure that the sales programme was met. The marketing people would decide on the product range and the type of packaging, the Range Controllers would then interpret the programme looking at the warehouse stocks and programme the factory accordingly. Of course the computer knew the stocks of everything. The only thing is nobody really trusted the numbers, so several people (Unit Controllers) would check the stocks of each component every morning just to be on the safe side. After a few days of following the Unit Controllers around I was given a selection of models to control. I won't forget them ever, the first was the Concorde, the second a GMC van, and the third the Starsky and Hutch Ford Torino. Three items didn't seem so bad, but of course life was not that simple and when you analysed each you found that there were so many variants that you were actually controlling many product lines. The GMC van was painted twelve colours and ended up as a Spiderman Van, Marvel Comic Van, Charlies Angel Van, a Radio One Van etc etc. The Concordes went into about five gift sets; the Starsky and Hutch car was a lot easier except for the fact the volumes were enormous. All seemed to go well for the first few days. I had stocks of all the components and the lines kept on churning out the products. In these days nothing was produced under 250,000 pieces, however the 'honeymoon' period was over. The first rule of manufacturing 'he who shouts loudest gets the parts'. I didn't stand a chance, it was every man for himself I couldn't get the body castings out of the foundry and virtually nothing off the paint machine. The second rule of manufacturing 'agree a balanced production programme with your fellow Unit Controllers and then when they are not looking - alter it'.

## "The beginning of the end"





## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Each set comes boxed with a news report £5.99 each

#### January 1945



On 10 January enemy resistance ceased at Shwebo in Burma, and two days later the 14th Army captured Budalin, only 60 miles from Mandalay. On the 14th the advance reached Wetlet, 30 miles closer to Mandalay, and three days later the British 36th Division crossed the Irrawaddy river. On 23 January the Ledo Road was completed, and the first convoy for three years crossed the border into China. It had been closed since April 1942. As a tribute to General Stilwell, the new 620 mile highway built behind his advancing army from Ledo in Assam to Mongyu on the old Burma Road was officially named the Stillwell Road.

















From the invasion of the northern beaches of France to the celebrations of the ultimate surrender of Berlin. This is a collection of three DVD's from the archives of the Imperial War Museum, starting with the greatest invasion by sea and air and finishing with the Royal family and Churchill on the balcony at Buckingham Palace, 160 minutes for £24.99



## MODERN CARS 6 FOR 4 OR 4 FOR 3

Three cars per pack. Each pack is available at a cost of £9.95, but we will let you buy them also at 4 for the price of 3 (£29.85) and 6 for price of 4 (£39.80). All 1:43rd scale.







**BMW PACK 1** 



**VOLKSWAGEN** 



SPORTS

1:43 Scale

CP006

**BMW PACK 2**