



# THE OXFORD DIE-CAST GLOBE

PRODUCED FOR THE OXFORD DIE-CAST COLLECTORS CLUB  
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Issue 27

UK & EIRE £2Guineas (£2.10) USA \$5



'The Festival of Britain' held in 1951 to commemorate the new found freedom and 'The Future' prosperity of Great Britain. The exhibition was displayed on the South banks of the Thames and covered an area similar to that of the Millennium Dome and indeed on which the Dome was styled. The exhibition was erected in front of the Battersea Power Station.

A national vote showed that it was favoured by just 60% of the British public, and the labour government, who were in power at the time, felt it was the way forward to put the 'Great' back in front of Britain!

As you entered the Festival of Britain after taking the London Transport Bus, which operated a special service to the exhibition at



the South Bank Festival Gardens, you were confronted by a sphere and the famous 'Dome of Discovery'; both of which can be seen on the reverse of the 3d bus ticket, in front of the Battersea Power Station. Also alongside



Model No. RM29  
Edition: 2500

the exhibition was the fabulous Battersea Pleasure Gardens with all the fun of the fair.

You'll note the bus ticket is twice as long as the normal ticket and carried the Festival logo on it as well as its destination and route. Also, a commemorative 5/- piece was available with the year 1951 on the reverse and the King - George VI on its head. This coin came in a presentation box with a descriptive leaflet enclosed.

To celebrate the 50th year anniversary of the exhibition we are delighted to present the 'Festival of Britain' 1951 R.M. which was on display as the bus of the future at the exhibition and soon to be introduced onto the streets of London, and still running to this day. You will note the first vehicle in the R.M. range with split colouring!

We believe this model is highly collectable and will attract a lot of outside interest.

## A word from Michael

Dear Members,

Hopefully, this issue No. 27 of Globe should almost bring us back on track..The next one is due end of September, followed by end of October and finally our Christmas one.

In that time I can tell you some very exciting things are happening, for example there will be three super cigi's in the next Globe plus a gorgeous R.M. bus.

The October Globe sees three more cigi's plus a new model to add to the ODC range!

Then of course your Christmas Free Vehicle 2001! So, all in all, some exciting happenings.

Sales on the R.M. 'Silver Jubilee' have been very high. In fact, we're hoping enough have been produced.

Please keep sending any old 'fag' packs - they really are useful. Indeed, even old magazines are good too.

Many thanks for all your letters, I will answer them as soon as I can.

Hope you all enjoy the summer and the glorious weather.

Take good care.

Michael Johnston - Allan  
Customer Service Department

# Taffs column

My apologies for being absent from the last Globe but I've been very busy settling down our new production facility and working with Michael on the future releases for the next six to twelve months.

I can honestly say that I am quite excited by all of the liveries and new tooling planned. You will see from the models included this month that we are concentrating on upgrading the designs, particularly with the Routemaster Bus, which is now featuring split colours across the bodylines. This will become more evident as we release other decorations over the next few Globes.

Oxford Die-Cast has been involved with many projects with other companies over the years and the Volvos featured recently are part of this history. It is worth remembering that both Dusty and myself have been involved in die-casting for many years and it is interesting for both of us watching the continuing success of the Oxford range, both in the UK and overseas. In fact the engineering involved in making a die-cast vehicle is similar to that involved in making other products e.g. the Zinc Alloy type used for our die-cast bodies is the same as is used for door handles in cars.

Dusty was an approved person by the Ministry of Defence in the war for the supply of hand grenade mechanisms - yes, the top screw mechanism was made of the same Zinc Alloy as our models. So, if by mistake your next purchase has a note on it, "pull ring and run for cover" you'll know its just one of Dustys samples that's got mixed up with your vehicle.

*Dusty does know the wars over doesn't he Taff!*

## Not quite a jungle

'Eagle' - 'Tiger' and now 'Lion' to join the 'Comic Cuts' range!

First publication was 23rd February 1952 until cessation on 18th May 1974 with over 1100 copies published.

Popular throughout the late 40's and 50's 'Lion' was an action filled comic, though it did carry some very worthwhile stories too. It's outer covers were in colour whilst the inside was usually in black and white.



Model No. CC005 Edition: 1500

Captain Condor was the lead story for our magazine and shows him in action with his Robot Raiders (the year 3000) far fetched then, but not so much now! It's got a touch of James Bond and Dr. Who about it.

The magazine was published weekly on Mondays and cost 3d. Some of its rival magazines were 'Hotspur', 'Wizard' and 'Rocket' at the time, plus many, many more.

Our feature model is a Chevrolet.

## Bristows Lanolin

A name that conjures up memories and the latest in our 'Corner Shop' range.

One of the first companies, 'Bristows' see the benefits of lanolin in one of its products.

Lanolin soap teased the imagination with the thoughts of soothing lanolin being poured over your body.

Remember also this was very much a post war product and came as a welcome relief after 'carbolic' the dreaded 'wash your mouth out with' soap.

Also at the time, the soap market was very 'no nonsense' with products like 'Lifebuoy' health soap and Palmolive, with Lux and Bristows bringing more luxury to the soap market, and who remembers 'Lycil'?

This gorgeous Bullnose has an edition of just

800. The model is very low in edition because it was all the available space we had for manufacture in the Far East, as only half of our machines had been installed at the time - so be quick.



Model No. CS006 Edition: 800

## A New Series

The first in a new series of 'old magazines' beginning with the 'Practical Householder'.

As the post war years rolled on and following the 'Festival of Britain' into the 50's, the 'Do it Yourself' (D.I.Y.) market became a passion to so many people. Infact so popular that a magazine devoted entirely to D.I.Y. hit the best sellers.

All of a sudden would be carpenters, builders, plumbers and electricians came to light.

Now, many magazines are published for the D.I.Y. enthusiast, plus dedicated T.V. programmes as well.

Our delightful vehicle, and the first in the series is the Chevrolet pantechnican showing the magazine with a cover price of just 1/3 (or 7d).



Model No. Mag 001  
Edition: 1500

# Guest Vehicle No. 2

The interest from the last Volvo Super Combination vehicle was very encouraging with enthusiasm for the detail of the product.

The next model presented is the EC210 excavator with a scale 1:50 has been released by Volvo in the last few months and like the A40D shown in the last Globe, is precise and detailed with moving bucket and lifting arm and moving tracks.

There is a lot of printing detail on the model including the safety warning signs. The operators cab is an accurate reproduction with selection levers and joystick control visible. The real vehicle boasts 143 horsepower with an engine weight of over 20 tonne. The model is priced at £24.99 (\$49.99).

Also, if you purchase this vehicle, you may receive your second featured vehicle at the special price of £7.49 (\$12.99) each.

## The Volvo 180 High Lift

Again, this model has a scale of 1:50 with superb detail. In working life the Volvo 180 is mainly used in rough terrain forestry areas. Our model has a fully movable high lift section with accurate movements and linkages.



Model Volvo 180 High Lift

Model EC210 Excavator



## THE FULL RAILWAY RANGE MINI CLASSICS

These vehicles do not come with the display feature box. They are packed in plain cardboard mailers, you may mix as you wish.

Each vehicles costs £2.50 each  
Or 6 vehicles for £2.25 each = £13.50  
12 vehicles for £2.00 each = £24.00  
18 vehicles for £1.85 each = £33.30

### Southern

1 box delivery van  
1 open delivery truck  
1 Bedford Coach



### General Railway Delivery Vehicles

Carter Paterson  
Hays Wharf Cartage  
Chaplins



### LNER

1 box delivery van  
1 open delivery truck  
1 Bedford Coach



### GWR

1 box delivery van  
1 open delivery truck  
1 Bedford Coach



### British Railways

1 box delivery van  
1 open delivery truck  
1 Bedford Coach



### LMS

1 box delivery van (A)  
1 Bedford Coach  
1 box delivery van (B)



## 'The girls are so Pretty'

That's in Dublin of course and where our beautiful R.M. Dublin City Tours bus is based.

Dublin conjures up delightful thoughts. The City of Dublin lies on the Liffey River and it is said Guinness from the Liffey is different and nicer there than from anywhere else. (Is this true?).

There are several versions of where the name Dublin came from:-

Princess Dublina was drowned in the Liffey and was restored to life through the prayers of a saint.

*E'm - sounds like a good old bit of Irish folk law!*

Or try this one! Scandinavian rovers who at the Ath Cliath (the ford of the hurdles) in 836 A.D. bestowed on it the new name of Dubh-linn (Duv Linn, Danish Diflyn) or Blackpool, from the inlet of the Liffey at its confluence with the small stream of the Poddle, where their ships moored.

*We're lost on that one!*

But the R.M. bus is true and magic, it's also a delightful model, again using split colouring for only the second time (the first is on 'the Festival of Britain').



Model No. RM30 Edition: 2500

# Ark Royal

Again, a nautical theme is promoted on these cigarettes (we're unable to establish the manufacturer).

Why sea and sailors so much and where did the term 'Navy Cut' originate? Has any member got any idea?

'Ark Royal' the flagship of the British Navy of which we believe 5 vessels have carried the name and served the Crown!

The first was built at Deptford on the River Thames in 1587, to the order of Sir Walter Raleigh. Originally named 'Ark Raleigh', she was bought by Queen Elizabeth's navy for £5000 ('money well spent', according to her new commander Lord Howard of Effingham) as 'Ark Royal' was the flagship of the English fleet during the Spanish Armada campaign of 1588.

In 1608, under the new monarch James I, she was rebuilt and renamed 'Anne Royal'. She was finally broken up in 1636.



The next 'Ark Royal', after a gap of almost 300 years was a merchant ship converted on the building stocks to be a seaplane carrier. Launched in 1914 she gave valuable service in the Dardanelles campaign and throughout the First World War. She was renamed 'HMS Pegasus' in 1934 to free the name 'Ark Royal' for a new ship, and was broken up in 1950.

The third 'Ark Royal' was a 22,000 ton aircraft carrier launched in 1937. After having taken part in many wartime operations, including the hunt for the 'Bismarck', she was torpedoed and sunk by a German U-Boat in November 1941.

In 1955, a new 'HMS Ark Royal' entered service. Still well remembered by the public for her starring role in the 1970's BBC series 'Sailor', she eventually went to the breaker's yard in 1980.

Today's 'HMS Ark Royal' is a member of the Invincible Class of support carriers, together with the Falklands veteran 'HMS Invincible' and 'HMS Illustrious'. Last of the class to be built, 'HMS Ark Royal's, keel was laid at Swan Hunter's yard in 1978, she was launched in June 1981 and entered service in 1985. This delightful vehicle is featured in your catalogue and long awaited.

Model No. CIG012 Edition: 2000

## ★ GOLD FLAKE ★

Goodness knows how many 'Gold Flake' designs there were, but we know of at least 4. The brand goes back a long time but is no more.

We ran our 'Gold Flake' CIG005 on a 'Model A'. How about a 4 box set Taff - Christmas maybe?



Anybody who has any old cigi packs they don't want, please send them to Michael at Berkhamsted.

*Just received a 'Nelson' cigarette pack from member J. Williams of Cardiff. Thanks a lot Mr. Williams. Your free vehicle is on its way.*

Michael

*(P.S. I've just found a Gold Flake - 50 cigarette tin in a junk shop).*

'Gold Flake' CIG005 on a Model A



## Away from the sea

Into the skies for the next vehicle in our cigarette collection range.

'Airman' manufactured by John Players.

'Airman' was available in 10's and 20's sleeve packs, with an RAF wing logo as its design.



It was a non-tipped brand as were almost all cigarettes in the pre 60's and was not specifically made for the air force, but widely available through all tobacconists, particularly 'Finlays'.

The vehicle featuring the 'Airman' brand is a Chevrolet.



Model No. CIG017 Edition: 2000