



OXFORD DIE-CAST

THE OXFORD DIE-CAST GLOBE

PRODUCED FOR THE OXFORD DIE-CAST COLLECTORS CLUB

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REGIMENTS THE LIFE GUARDS

Here it is, our latest range which will feature Guards and Regiments and all of the models will appear on Bullnoses and approximately 6 models will be released each year. We felt it fitting to start the range with the most senior regiment of the British Army - The Lifeguards who were formed at the restoration in 1660 from a group of eighty Royalists who had gone into exile with King Charles II after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester (1652). They first saw action at the Battle of Sedgemoor in 1665 (the Monmouth Rebellion) and subsequently in both the Jacobite Wars and during the war of Austrian Succession (1742-46). They were redesignated the 1st and 2nd Life Guards in 1788, a period from which the majority of today's state dress originates, and formed the front charging line of the Household Cavalry Brigade at the Battle of Waterloo (1815), staging the famous charge against the French Cuirassiers that saved the British centre from being overrun.

During the nineteenth century, the Life Guards served in Egypt, as part of the Household Cavalry Regiment, taking part in the romantic Moonlight Charge at Kassassin and also in the Sudan and South Africa. In the First World War, the Regiment saw action at Mons, Le Cateau, The Marne, Ypres, Loos, Poelcappelle, Passchendaele and most notably at Zandvoorde where the Life Guards lost two complete squadrons. During the Second World War, the Life Guards contributed men to both Household Cavalry Regiments, the second of which was described by General Brian Horrocks as "the finest armoured car regiment I have ever seen". They landed at Normandy in July 1944 and spearheaded the Guards Armoured Brigade advance through France to liberate Brussels and became the only forces to make contact with the Polish Free Forces during the advance to the bridge at Arnhem.



Model No. GR01 Edition: 1,500

Reformed as The Life Guards after the war, the regiment saw service in the Canal Zone, Aden and Oman against the dissident tribesmen, including the assault with the SAS on the Jebel Ahkter in Cyprus, Malaya, Singapore and Borneo. Since the early seventies, the Regiment has undertaken seven tours of Northern Ireland and a number in support of the United Nations Forces in Cyprus. The entire regiment was deployed to the Gulf in 1990 and took part in the land war finishing up astride the Kuwait City Basra highroad. In 1991, the Regiment was reduced to two reconnaissance squadrons based in Windsor in a unionised regiment with The Blues and Royals and one squadron committed to mounted ceremonial duty in London. The regiment has recently had squadrons on operational deployments with the UN and Nato in Bosnia. Model GR01 starts the range and features the badge of the Lifeguards

THE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION



HM The Queen Colonel in Chief

The Household Division is made up of seven regiments and is commanded by The Major General. There are two Regiments of Household Cavalry, the Household Cavalry Regiment and The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment. Both Regiments have Squadrons of The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals. The other five Regiments are collectively known as the Foot Guards. They are The Grenadier Guards, The Coldstream Guards, The Scots Guards, The Irish Guards and The Welsh Guards. The Regiments owe their origins to the fact they were raised for the express purpose of guarding the Sovereign. A duty they still carry out today. The seven Regiments are unique from the

rest of the British Army in that they carry out this task as well as their modern military role.



Trooping the Colour

A word from *Michael*

Dear Members

I'm very pleased to see the introduction of the Regiments range and I think its most fitting that all will appear on our Bullnose as it was ten years ago this month that we first talked about the possibility of introducing a Diecast vehicle. We hadn't come up with a name for the company and weren't even sure which model to introduce - but I think we made the right choice! I do like these Players models and we certainly had a fantastic response last month with the Players Weights. Maybe if we nag him a little more we'll see some more Goldflake variations which are so much requested.

Take good care



Michael

Dusty certainly is enjoying the drinks range and he tells us that he tried 4/5 bottles of different Cognac before deciding on Martell for this lovely Model A. It was back in 1715 while Jean Martell was just twenty that he moved to Cognac from his native Jersey. Just six years later he wrote "I can

say without boasting that I have one of the best businesses in the region" and by now he was exporting 100,000's of bottles of Cognac to Britain. In 1753 he died, but since then nine generations of the family have continued in the business each following the principles of their father before them. We feature 'old fine Cognac' on our Model A.



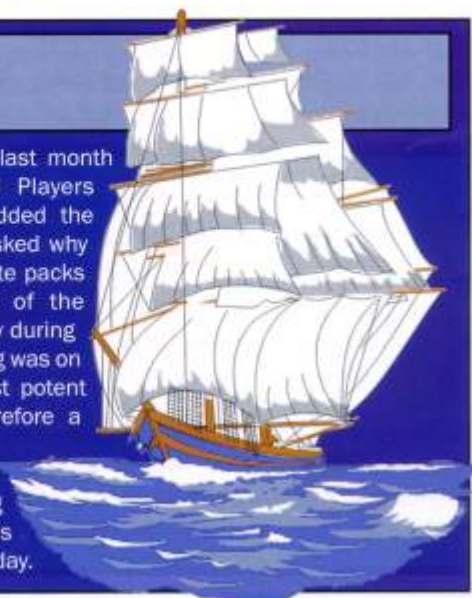
Model No. DR05 Edition: 1,500

CLIPPER



Model No. CIG43 Edition: 2,000

Well Taff certainly did us proud last month with the Players Weights and Players Bachelor so this month he's added the Clipper to the range. I'm often asked why sailing ships appeared on cigarette packs and I believe it was because of the dominant force of the British Navy during these times. Although our shipping was on the decline it remained the most potent symbol of the Empire and therefore a powerful advertising tool. Being an island nation water was still the primary method of moving bulk goods any sizeable distances and in many cases remains so today.



Minehead

RM0/57 is the seventh open top in our range of Routemasters and is part of a 'Double Bill' this month with RM0/58 Eastbourne opposite. I suppose Minehead is most famous for Butlins Holiday Camp, known all over Britain for its family holidays and entertainments. However there's lots more to offer in this seaside town being so close to Exmoor and not far away is the famous Doone Country, immortalised by R D Blackmore in Lorna Doone. Many Red Deer are to be seen as well as the tough and shaggy Exmoor ponies. The West Somerset Steam Railway with its nine old-time stations will take you on a journey of pure nostalgia; along the coast, past Watchet harbour and Blue Anchor Bay then through the Quantock Hills to Bishop's Lydeard. Dunster Castle, only 2 miles from Minehead, is a stunning example of a fortified castle. It is open to visitors and contains many superb exhibits from its exciting history. The village of Dunster is rightly famous for its many fascinating features such as the Yarn Market, the Doll's Museum, the Nunnery and the magnificent rood screen in St George's Church. Some visitors even go to Dunster just to experience the range and quality of its tea-shops. Porlock village, 5 miles to the west of

Minehead, has found its own place in history in the phrase 'a person from Porlock'. The story is told that Samuel Taylor Coleridge once woke up with a complete poem clear in his head. He started to write it down "In Xanadu did Kublai Khan a stately pleasure-dome decree....". He had written about 50 lines when there was a knock on the door and a person from Porlock called about some minor matter. When the man had gone Coleridge sat down to write the rest of the poem but couldn't remember it, which is why this great work remained unfinished.



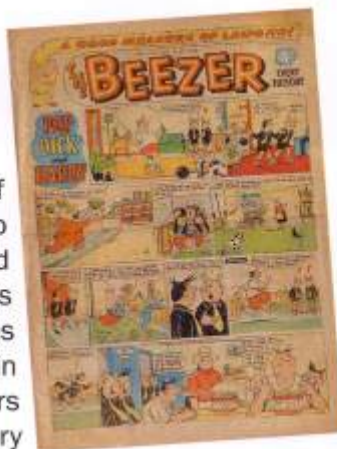
Model No. RM0/57 Edition: 2,000



BEEZER

Model No. CC019 Edition: 1,500

Well I certainly remember Ginger who was one of my favourite characters in the Beezer, but I have to admit to missing out on the first edition as I'd already spent my pocket money that week. I was particularly upset as it contained a free gift (as always) and many of my friends took great joy in playing with their Whizz Bang (who remembers them??). The Beezer was issued first in January 1956 and appeared as a broadsheet, unfortunately like everything it was modernised and in 1981 it joined forces with Plug and was printed in the smaller size. In 1993 after approximately 2,400 issues it was withdrawn. Some of the other characters were Baby Crocket, The Numbskulls (sounds like Taff's family?) and Colonel Blink. Ginger appears on our Model T and is the 19th model in our range.



TAFF'S COLUMN

A recent letter from Mr Dewhurst (165229) got me thinking as he sent me a picture of a cigarette tin that originated from the 50's or 60's. It was branded with Benson and Hedges and showed the logo and name of British European Airways. We presume that it was either purchased as a gift, or maybe cigarettes were given out during the flight. I'm sure one of you out there can help me with a little information. I'm also wondering if anyone has an old Buster comic floating around their loft as a possible candidate for a future vehicle as I can't seem to find one. We also can't find an original Girl Guide magazine from the 50's - surely there's a Brown Owl out there who's got one?

See you soon

Taff



Good Morning Campers

This lovely set was released a few years ago and the Bedford Coach shows the destination Skegness which was the home of Billy Butlins first holiday camp which he opened back in 1921. There are three Bedford models in the collection and they come packaged in a Mail Order box. The set costs £9.95 but as a special offer this month if you purchase both the RM0/057 and RM0/056 you can purchase the Mini Classic Butlin Set for just £4.95! (while stocks last)

Eastbourne

When we first discussed the Eastbourne bus as an addition to our range Taff went rather pale and told us of his holiday there many years ago. He claims to have dropped his watch off the end of the pier - a Smiths watch with a black strap, a black watch face and luminous numbers. He still has a desire for the return of the watch and would ask all members to keep an eye out for it. (We think it was his way of getting a new watch!)

Beachy Head is the most famous part of the Eastbourne Downland and it rises 162 metres (530 feet) above the sea below and is the highest chalk sea cliff in Britain. The main reason for Beachy Head's popularity is the wonderful panoramic view which can be seen from the cliff top. If you look east you see the beaches and town of Eastbourne, the Pier and the Harbour, and then on to Pevensey Bay and Hastings and, on an exceptionally clear day, Dungeness in Kent, nearly 40 miles away.

Looking west, you can see even further, up to 70 miles, past Seaford Head to Newhaven and Brighton and then on to Selsey Bill near Chichester in West Sussex. On a very clear day the outline of the Isle of Wight can be seen. Our Open Top Routemaster makes a lovely addition to the range, and if you purchase the Minehead bus as well you get the Butlins Set above for just £4.95.



Model No. RM0/056 Edition: 2,000



The pier off which Taff dropped his watch!!!

READING

The market town of Reading grew up around a 13th century abbey and its industries centred around biscuit making, brewing and engineering. Buses first operated in 1919 and AEC was a major supplier of chassis to them for many years. Our latest RT shows the familiar cream and maroon livery used by Reading Corporation Transport.



Model No. RT009 Edition: 2,000

WORLD CUP

One of our members wrote to me recently as he had bought at auction a chrome plated Oxford Diecast Bullnose in a commemorative box and as it doesn't feature anywhere in our literature he inquired as to its origins so we felt it appropriate to clarify the history. When the World Cup set was launched back in 1996 it commemorated the 30 year anniversary of England's World Cup win and it featured all of the players plus (Sir) Alf Ramsay on the side of 12 Bullnoses as pictured below - all vehicles being painted and it was coded as Set 1. In addition we also launched a set of chrome plated vehicles which sold for £200 per set (Set 1C) which some of you will remember and have talked to me about at recent shows -



Chrome plated Bullnose

which were uncertificated and were used promotionally by some of the football clubs. We only produced 500 of these models and again we have pictured the model below for your records. Still available of the chrome

models in the special presentation box are the following R. Wilson, N. Styles, A. Ball, A. Ramsey, B. Charlton, J. Charlton, B. Moore, G. Hurst, G. Banks and R. Hunt.

Unfortunately there are no stocks available of G. Cohen or M. Peters which appear to be the most difficult to obtain. If anyone is interested in obtaining any of these items they should fill in the special application on the order form and we will do our best to accomodate your requirements, but cannot guarantee we will satisfy all

these sold out very quickly and were out of stock within weeks. As part of the 30 year celebrations we also provided the chrome plated vehicles in special presentation boxes to various officials of which we produced 75 of each although many of these were retained by our agent. We also issued the painted vehicles in a closed box around 1998/9

orders as so few are available.

There are still some football sets available and these can still be obtained by application on this months order form as can the uncertificated Bullnoses in promotional boxes.



Uncertificated painted Bullnoses in mailer boxes



World Cup set