

THE OXFORD DIECAST COLLECTORS CLUB

GLOBE

PRODUCED FOR THE OXFORD DIE-CAST COLLECTORS CLUB

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

Issue 66

UK & EIRE Guineas (£2.10) USA \$5.00

VE DAY

60th Anniversary

BED017 VE Day
60th Anniversary
Edition 10,000

New Release



Tuesday 8 May 1945 was 'Victory in Europe' (VE) Day, and it marked the formal end of Hitler's war. With it came the end of six years of misery, suffering, courage and endurance across the world. Individuals reacted in very different ways to the end of the nightmare: some celebrated by partying; others spent the day in quiet reflection; and there were those too busy carrying out tasks to do either. Ultimately nothing would be quite the same again. After surrender in Italy, a high ranking German delegation including a senior admiral and a senior general, appeared at the headquarters of Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery, located near Lubeck. Typically, Montgomery barked, 'Who are these men? What do they want?' They had come to surrender the German forces in Northern Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. The final document of unconditional surrender was signed at General Dwight Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims on 7 May, victory was celebrated a day later. This is one of several vehicles that we will release over the next six weeks commemorating the event. It will appear in Reader Offers, but these are oversubscribed before we commence, so we will have to issue some coloured derivatives - yet to be determined - if we are going to meet the demand!



CODE: VEPLATE

You'll find this item advertised up and down the country over the next few weeks at a whole range of prices with some newspapers subsidising the costs. Its normal price is £9.95, but anyone who orders from this Globe can have it for half price - £4.95 plus p&p. It's an 8 inch diameter porcelain plate and has been produced by Oxford Collectables for the event. There are other plates scheduled and as we release them we will advise you accordingly. Don't forget you will receive a second voucher this month to receive your FREE medal - further details can be found on page 7.

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FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT



DISCOVER

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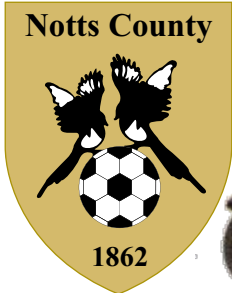
New Release

REACH FOR THE SKY



WV019 Reach for the Sky
Edition 2,000

As a young man, Douglas Bader is adventurous and passionately devoted to flying, but his promising career is tragically interrupted in December 1931, when a serious air accident necessitates the amputation of both his legs. Determined to live a normal life, Bader learns to walk again on artificial limbs and proves his independence by flying at the Central Flying School, but suffers a temporary setback when he is grounded because regulations do not provide for a man without legs. A monotonous civilian job is terminated by the war and Bader finds himself wanted again. His skill and powers of leadership are fully utilised in the Battle of Britain, during which he leads five squadrons of aircraft. An accident forces him to bale out however, and he is taken prisoner. Numerous attempts at escape so enrage the Germans that, as a final resort, he is sent to Colditz. His desire for a "last fling" at the enemy is thwarted by the end of the European war, but a moment of triumph comes in September 1945, when the victory air parade over London is led, in a Battle of Britain Spitfire, by Wing Commander Douglas Bader, D.S.O., D.F.C. The whole story is so famously captured in Reach For The Sky starring Kenneth More.



F018 Notts County
Edition 1,100



Recognised as the Oldest League Club in the World. Notts County F.C. was formed in 1862 and was a founder member of the English Football League in 1888, with the Nottingham Guardian of November 28th 1862 saying:-

"The opening of the Nottingham Football Club commenced on Tuesday last at Cremorne Gardens. An aide was chosen by W.Arkwright and Chas. Deakin. A very spirited game resulted in the latter scoring two goals and two rouges against one and one". Official formation came in 1864 as the 'Notts. Foot Ball Club'.

Between 1864 and 1888, friendly matches were arranged with other clubs in England and Scotland. For the first-half of the 1880s Notts were one of the best clubs in England. At one stage, Notts had 8 England Internationals in the same team. The first entry to the FA Cup was in 1877, with good runs leading to semi-final appearances in 1883 and 1884. Home games were played occasionally at Trent Bridge in the early years, but regular venues were the Meadows Cricket Ground and later the Castle Cricket Ground. The leagues took an extended break as football was suspended between 1939 and 1946 due to the Second World War, with only regional matches and cup competitions with clubs allowed to field guest players. Bomb damage on the night on May 1941 produced bomb craters at Meadow Lane and subsequently the ground was closed meaning 1941/42 was Notts' only season when there was no football played.

Notts County's most famous player was the England International Tommy Lawton, whose arrival at Meadow Lane in November 1947 put 10,000 on the gates and the Boxing day game against Swansea caused the gates to be locked with more than 45,000 in the ground and an estimated 10,000 outside! 'The Lawton Era' were halcyon days at Notts County with other great players such as Jackie Sewell and Tommy Deans gracing the Third Division.

C071 Lest We Forget
Edition 500



New Release

LEST WE FORGET

Another release featuring those words which affect us so greatly. This time a small edition with 350 available to members of the Oxford club. Issued to coincide with VE day and coded as C071. Although the 60th anniversary is the 8th May, many official events held for the occasion will take place in June and July falling some where between VE day and VJ day which will be remembered on August 15th. A VJ van is already on the blocks - so look out for that appearing as well.

1:43 Scale

£4.95



You can use this model this month in your 6 for 4 and 4 for 3 purchasing. They do come in an assortment of colours and if you wish to choose you can.

CODE FOCUS

Black, Red, Yellow, Silver, Blue & White



The Royal Tank Regiment

Colonel-in-Chief
HM The Queen

New
Release



GR016 Royal Tank
Edition 1,500

When the first tanks were produced in 1916, they were manned by members of the Machine Gun Corps, formed into six companies which were collectively known as the Heavy Branch.

The very first battle involving tanks took place on the Somme. About thirty British Mark 1 tanks attacked German positions between the villages of Flers and Courcellette on Friday 15 September 1916. The arrival of the tanks on the battlefield signalled the end of trench warfare, which had suffocated both sides in the 1914-18 conflict.

During this action the Press seized on a report from an aircraft crew, which said that "a tank is walking down the main street of Flers with the British Army cheering behind it." This was "D" Company, later the 4th Royal Tank Regiment.

These companies were expanded to form battalions and were renamed the Tank Corps in 1917.

The first battle between two opposing tanks took place near the village of Cachy on 24 April 1918. The German A7V tank Nixe (Lt Biltz), engaged three British Mark IV tanks, and damaged two, but was knocked out by the third, commanded by 2/Lt Frank Mitchell.

By December 1918 there were 26 battalions, and as well as serving in France, a detachment from the Corps had served under Allenby at Gaza, Palestine in 1917. The Corps saw almost continuous action, winning four VC's.

A word from Michael

This month we have quite a military theme not only with the VE Day anniversary model, but also with Reach for the Sky, Johnnie Johnsons Spitfire and The Royal Tank Regiment. We very much appreciate all the replies we received to our questionnaire, far more than expected, with the majority very positive. We will take into account all the points made and where we can make the changes. However, be assured these won't be too drastic, as on balance we seem to have got a lot right.

Good luck to Taff who's getting married, how does he have the time to fit that in!

Until next time

Take care



CIG066 Three Nuns
Edition 2,000

New
Release



The firm Stephen Mitchell & Son started as far back as 1723 in Lithinglow, but by 1825 it had relocated to Glasgow. After the settlement of the tobacco wars, ITC acquired J & F Bell and merged the two companies, hence both names appearing on the packet. The name Three Nuns probably had something to do with their other brand Three Bells. To the right you will see the other proposed version of the model, after some consideration Dusty chose the version above which seems OK.



1:72 Scale



1:72 Scale CODE :LANDA

Pack A

Fire Brigade	AA Service
Army	RAC
UN	Safari



Last month we offered two of these sets, such was the demand that one set is now out of stock which just leaves the Set A remaining (we had a few more of these) you can include this set of six in one of these packs in 6 for 4 and 4 for 3 purchasing. One pack of 6 counts as one Oxford Diecast model. We will also require a £0.50 contribution towards p&p for each pack purchased. This is available only while stocks last and we don't expect to be offering this again.



BED014 Railway Lorry
Country Services
Edition 2,000



RAILWAY
COUNTRY LORRY
SERVICES

G.W.R LMS L.N.E.R S.R

New Release

LINK VILLAGES & FARMS
WITH THE TOWNS

Based on a poster that was used for the Railway Country Lorry Services during the thirties and forties. This was produced for the Great Western Railway (GWR), London Midland & Scottish Railway (LMS), London & North Eastern Railway (LNER) and Southern Railway (SR) to promote lorry services aimed at linking country villages and farms with towns and cities. A lorry is shown in front of a thatched house, transporting goods. The artwork was produced by Ralph & Mott who were a firm of artists' agents. They employed a team of artists whose work can be found under the pseudonym Ralph Mott. During this era the big four in competition with each other each developed their own distinctive style of poster advertising with subjects such as resorts, towns and items of wider interest. This was one time when the four combined resulting in a pleasing design which we show here on our Bedford.

JOHNNIE JOHNSON SPITFIRE

Air Vice-Marshal J. E. Johnnie Johnson CB, CBE, DSO and two Bars, DFC and Bar



1:72 Scale

Johnnie Johnson Spitfire

James Edgar (Johnnie) Johnson was born at Barrow-upon-Soar, Leicestershire, England, on 9th March, 1916. He was initially rejected by the RAF Volunteer Reserve but they changed their mind after the outbreak of the Second World War. Selected for pilot training he was sent to Hawarden in Cheshire to learn to fly the Supermarine Spitfire. In September, 1940, he was posted to 19 Squadron but missed most of the Battle of Britain after being forced to have an operation on his shoulder. When he recovered he joined 616 Squadron where he joined Douglas Bader, Hugh Dundas and Jeff West.

He soon emerged as an outstanding fighter pilot. A master of accurate deflection shooting, a skill he had developed as a child when he hunted rabbits with a shotgun. In September 1941 Johnson was promoted to flight lieutenant and was given command of B Flight.

In 1942 he became squadron leader and in March 1943 was promoted to wing commander and given command of 610 Squadron. The following year he took over the Canadian wing in the recently formed 2nd Tactical Air Force.

By the end of the Second World War Johnson had flown in over 1,000 combat missions. He holds the remarkable record of never being shot down and on only one occasion was his Spitfire damaged by the enemy. Johnson has been credited with 38 kills. Officially this is the highest total of any RAF pilot but some experts believe that John Pattle scored more than 40.

Johnson, who was awarded the DSO and two bars, the DFC and bar, the Legion d'Honneur and the Croix de Guerre, stayed in the Royal Air Force after the war. He served with the United States Air Force in the Korean War where he was awarded the American DFC. In 1960 Johnson was appointed senior air staff officer in 3 Group, Bomber Command. He eventually retired in 1966 as Air Officer Commanding, Air Forces Middle East in Aden and died on 30th January, 2001. This is a 1:72 scale high quality model of the Mk IX, which actually stayed in production through 1944 and was produced in much larger numbers (5,665) than the Mk VIII (1,658). There were three versions of the Mk IX: The LF (low-altitude) had a clipped wing; the F was the standard fighter version and the HF (high-altitude) had extended wings and a pressurized cockpit. This 1:72 scale model comes with a stand for display and is very good quality and it is priced at £14.99



1:72 Scale

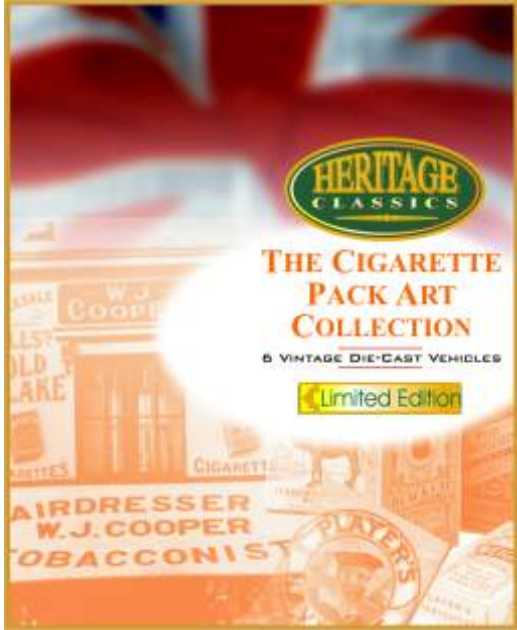
Messerschmitt BF109G-6

MESSERSCHMITT BF109G-6

The world became aware of the Messerschmitt BF109 during the Battle of Britain, and it is to this day Germany's best known aircraft. Its success lay in its manoeuvrability and its accurate and stable handling. Throughout World War II, new models were developed; the BF109G-6 "Gustav" was among the best. The first G-6s were delivered to fighter units in 1942 and saw extensive service on the Eastern Front. Like the Spitfire above the Messerschmitt it is very good quality and is priced at £14.99



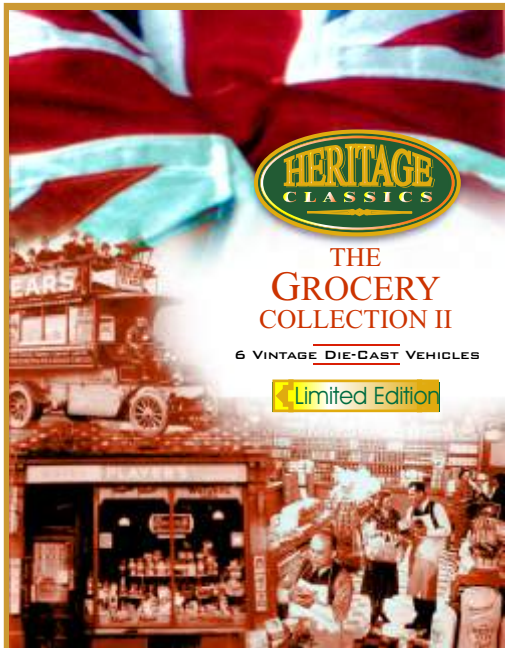
From the invasion of the northern beaches of France to the celebrations of the ultimate surrender of Berlin. This is a collection of three DVD's from the archives of the Imperial War Museum, starting with the greatest invasion by sea and air and finishing with the Royal family and Churchill on the balcony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



H004/1
EDITION 300



These are some more sets that we have released over the last few months and sell at £24.95 per set, many of you will be familiar with the models. They have lower edition sizes to the earlier sets and are in restricted supply. We have retained 100 sets of each which are available to members. As they are repeat liveries we have decided to offer them as buy one get the second at half price - that's two sets for £37.40 . There are variant sets that will also appear and as always we will keep you updated. They are nice gift items - so don't miss out. Not available yet, but in the same series is a Comic Collection. H004/1 has Blue Boy, Bachelors, Star, Four Square, Red Label and Churchmans. The Grocery Collection II H005/1 has Coffee Milk, Roses, Brocks, Campbells, Robin and Zebra.



H005/1
EDITION 300



Born Leonard Franklin Slye in Cincinnati on November 5th 1911 he later became famous as Roy Rogers "King of the Cowboys". He was accompanied by his horse Trigger and Bullet the Wonder Dog. From the series came a whole host of spin offs including comic strips and in the UK annuals were released. The first one we saw came in 1951 and the last in 1963. Our model is based on the 1955 release and shows Roy Rogers with Trigger.

Roy Rogers



CC023 Roy Rogers
Edition 1,100

MEMORY LANE

SOME OF TAFFS FAVOURITES, THOUGHTS and RAMBLINGS

TAFF

Editor: Does anyone read this?



DAN DARE
PILOT OF THE FUTURE

Someone actually mistook this for a picture of me - I wasn't surprised! I was however very offended by the letter from CF which said - **TAFF** PILOT OF THE PAST It wasn't funny and the letter made you look silly. I have cancelled your membership.

CC031 Dan Dare Edition 1,500

Tiny Tots to me were those little Jelly Beans - you can still get them in some sweetshops, sometimes I have to search high and low for a pack. Last month there was a box of Black Jacks on the counter so I bought the lot, the whole lot for £4.95 (3.5p each). I remember them when they cost 1d for 8. That would have been 1 shilling and 8d the box. Can anyone remember them cheaper?



CC032 Tiny Tots Edition 1500



Woodbine was the first and almost the last cigarette I smoked. In a way choosing this as my first brand did me a favour as I never bought a second packet.



CIG065 Red Label Edition 2,000

Despite my pleas the other month **not one** FREE bottle of beer was sent to me. I did



receive a couple of labels off an old beer bottle, two beer mats and a beer towel. So what does it mean? Probably that begging doesn't help - so you can keep FREE beer I don't want it - I wouldn't take it even if you begged me - so there!!!!!!



BED015 Tullamore Dew Edition 2000

TURNBULL HAWICK

Oh Dear. Oh dear, oh dear. **Scotland 22 Wales 46** Now that's what I call rugby, I've still got my boots and I'm prepared to help out. I've been to Scotland so under Welsh rules that makes me Scottish. I can play fly half or hooker?



C070 Turnbull Hawick Edition 500

LONDON TRANSPORT



Bus enthusiasts don't despair, we are refurbishing the moulds, so we've got a break for a month or two, but there are several London Transport themed models planned.



These additional vans will be released in May/June to cope with overflow demand for VE models. We think the edition will be 1,000 of each. No point in trying to order them yet as no orders can be taken. We will keep as many back for the club as we can.



You may have seen one of these about. They are mine as well - only available through the Express !!! I should have done a plate for my own wedding - TAFF & CAMILLA sounds fantastic!!!!!! As I write in early March we still haven't decided which one to produce? We have three variations!!

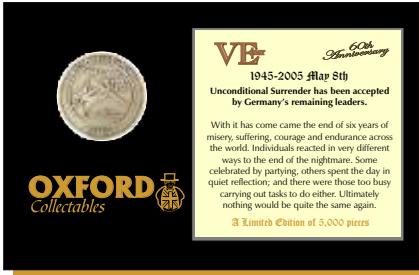
To place your letters here. Send comments, items wanted or items for sale - no more than 100 words. If you are selling something you must include your contact details. Available to members only.

Send letters to:
OXFORD DIECAST
MEMORY LANE
PO BOX 62
SWANSEA SA1 4YA
Oxford Diecast cannot take any responsibility for items advertised or items bought or sold.

VIE

60th Anniversary

You should have all received a voucher when you placed an order in last months Globe, and when you place an order in this Globe 66 you will receive a second voucher. Send both of these in when you order in the next Globe (Globe 67) and you will receive a FREE commemorative medal. 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 and make an ideal gift or just something to keep.



£5.95

1:50 Scale



Quite a few calls on this one last month. A high end product in a low end box. The propshaft is missing which is not easily noticed unless studying the model in a little detail, hence them finding their way onto the market at a very low price. Yes rejects, but undoubtedly worth having at the price. So you can have them for £5.95, but when they are gone - they are gone!

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.

1:72 Scale



CODE:MINISMAL

THE HISTORY OF TAFF AND OXFORD DIECAST

My problem was that I was 17, young with no power, so I was being squeezed out and if I didn't change things I would end up without any components for the production line. The key to producing diecast vehicles is a good supply of castings, without good stocks of these everything stops. If the production lines stopped because of a lack of components it would be my fault and the Assembly manager would go mad. To be successful meant you had to apply your own rules. To get the components out of the foundry was simple. There was a procedure whereby each pallet of work was fettled (any loose/excess metal removed by hand) and then inspected before being quantified. Simply promising the supervisor on the fettling belt some FREE drinks after work on the Friday was enough. She would change the programme at the drop of a hat to suit my needs. Having cracked that problem I needed to get the castings painted ahead of everyone else. This wasn't easy as there was a paint programme agreed each day which was strictly adhered to. Fortunately, I had spent a little time learning the computer system, so I had a plan. Once the components had left the Foundry they were ticketed and held in Stores C, in large pallets stacked on top of each other. Each had a specific location in the storage area which was held on computer and all items were stored randomly. There were over 1,000,000 castings held here and if they were ticketed incorrectly they could be lost for days, on top of which the factory was so busy that we were storing components in overspill stores - absolute chaos. The paint machine could handle 15,000 items per hour and items were sequenced in colour. The Paint Shop manager was under pressure every minute of the day to keep the castings flowing off the paint machine. So when components couldn't be found in the stores he went berserk and would frantically search for something else to paint in a similar colour to maintain the machine efficiency. So guess what - for the next few days I changed locations on the computer records and switched tickets on the pallets of castings and waited. The Paint Shop manager would be screaming at the store man demanding castings to paint which couldn't be found and guess who'd be there with a helpful suggestion. 'Can I help while these guys try and sort the problem - I need some Concorde painted and they are just over here' - 'I know my Radio One Vans aren't scheduled for painting until later this afternoon, but I can see you have a problem and guess what, they are just here'. I soon learnt that I didn't have to be so clever as the evening shifts weren't well managed at all. I'd watch the paint shop manager leave the factory at 4:30, then wander down to the paint machine and throw away the paint programme. I was always there to help the paint machine operator in his times of desperation - 'I can see you've got a problem' I'd say 'fortunately I remember the sequence of painting.....'. By the time I'd finished my three week stint the Stores foreman had been disciplined and new procedures put in place, however I had succeeded in getting my products produced and that is all that mattered to me. The next place for training was the computer department - away from production areas.

“The beginning of the end”



Each set comes boxed with a news report £5.95 each

FROM OUR
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

February 1945



SC009 Edition 2,500

NEW RELEASE

More than 1,400 heavy Allied bombers from the west have struck at Dresden, in direct support of Marshal Koniev's Russian columns advancing on the city from the east, only 62 miles away. At night, the RAF sent 1,400 bombers over Germany, 800 of them to Dresden, and by day the US Eighth Air Force sent 1,400 Liberators and Fortresses to pound the enemy, 600 of them targeting Dresden. They were escorted by 900 Mustang and Thunderbolt long range fighters. Dresden is the seventh largest city in Germany with an original population of 640,000. It is the major junction for all the main railway lines linking southern and eastern Germany, Berlin, Prague and Vienna, with branches linking Liepzig and other industrial centres. Flight Sergeant Bamley, one of the RAF bomber pilots, noted that the battle raging on the eastern front was clearly visible from his aerial vantage point. The Germans appear to have dug in along the banks of the River Neisse, 53 miles west of Dresden, in an attempt to hold back the rapid advance of Marshal Koniev's Russian forces.



SC007 Edition 2,500



SC008 Edition 2,500



SC001 Edition 2,500



SC002 Edition 2,500



SC003 Edition 2,500



SC004 Edition 2,500



SC005 Edition 2,500



SC006 Edition 2,500

These caused quite a stir last months. A few of you had seen the packs being sold, but two packs for a tenner was too much for you to resist. We still have packs left so if you are looking for some lovely models - they are here waiting for you.



CODE LANDC



CODE LANDE

**TWO PACKS FOR
£9.95 plus £1.50
p&p**

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 !



LAND-ROVER