

SEAR MODELS

British sports car models made from Resin by the late Geoff Sear.

Article by Ron Gersbank and Philip Ellis. Updated 3 June 2014



Protea

Geoff Sear was a scale model enthusiast and collector. He was an architect, who lived in Durban and one of his passions was producing hand-built resin models of cars not made by the bigger model manufacturers. His early models resembled those of Mikansue from England similar to the style of the early Dinky Toys.

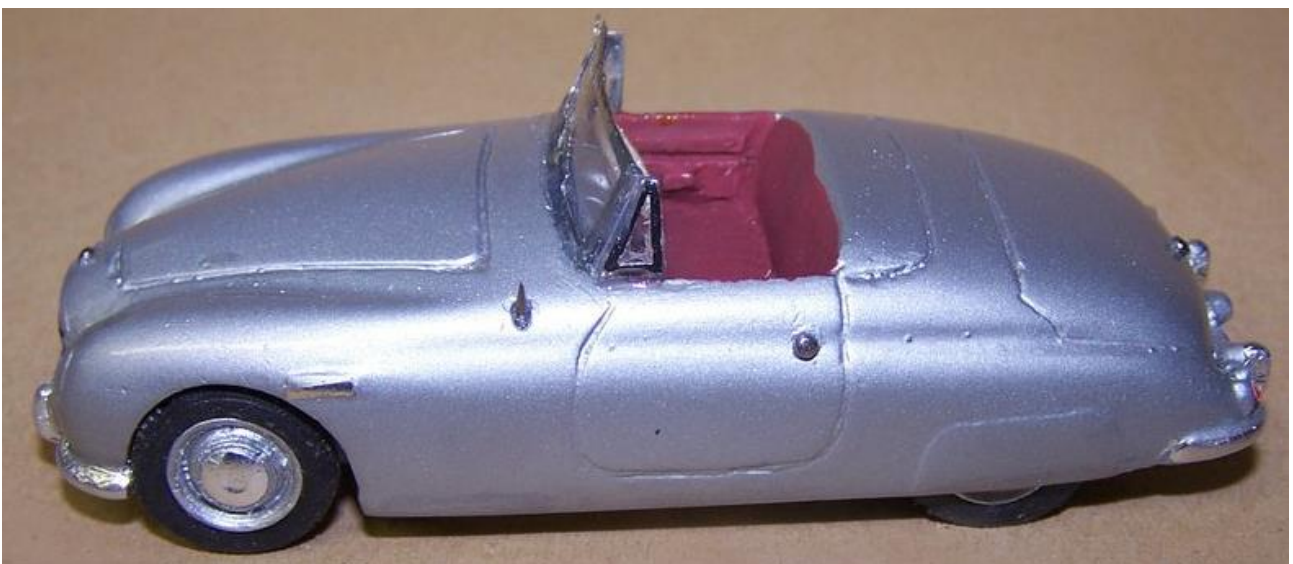
He went on to produce improved detailed 1/43rd scale resin models marketed under Sear Models. The models were of British sports cars from the 1950s and 1960s that had not been produced by any of the major model manufacturers.

Of interest to South Africans are the two models he produced of South African designed and built sports cars, namely the Protea and the GSM Dart. These were only made to order and could be customised, body and interior colours as well as number plate and various engines – Triumph, Ford, B.M.C. – could be fitted to suit the purchaser.

He made these models as a one man business, and as a small commercial venture selling them to serious collectors all over the world. He produced well over 20 different models.

Geoff was for many years Chairman of [The Natal Diecast Model Collectors](#) Club. He passed away in late August 2011.

A list with descriptions of the models Geoff produced appears on page two. Below the list are some more photographs of Geoff's models.



Triumph TRX Roadster

Make	Year	Model	No.	Approx. Date Model made	Remarks
A.C.	1956	Ace-Bristol 2-seater Sports		2004/11	Red with Creamy Tan upholstery. With wire (spoke) wheels
Allard	1953	Palm Beach Roadster		2011/06	Ron Gersbank supplied Geoff with scans of 2 of his Allard Palm Beach brochures, which included scale elevation and plan drawings of the car, with dimensions and photos etc. to assist Geoff with what would turn out to be his last resin model. Unfortunately, due to Geoff's ill health, he never completed this model, but his wife Marilynne let Ron have the unpainted body shell and in Geoff's memory, Ron had it completed through David Wright in England. The car could be fitted with either disc or wire spoke wheels.
Buckler	1953	Mk.90 Sports 2-seater	No 04	2006/10	Dark Red with Black seats. White 3-spoke steering wheel. Single aero screen. Disc wheels with Black hubs & chrome rims. Rear wheel spats. <i>(Ford 1172 cc. 4-cylinder side-valve engine. 4-speed gearbox).</i>
Elva	1958/9	Courier Sports 2-seater (open)		2003/05	Red with Tan upholstery. Black rimmed 3-spoke steering wheel. Perforated disc wheels with chrome hubcaps.
Fairthorpe	1960	Zeta Sports 2-seater (open)	L.E. No. 03	2009/11	Silver with Matt Green seats. Central boot filler cap. Perforated disc wheels. 2553cc. <i>Ford Zephyr 6-cyl. engine)</i>
G.S.M.	1957	Dart 2-seater Sports		2000/02	Silver-Grey with Tan seats. Disc wheels.
Ginetta	1965	G4 Series II Sports 2-seater	L.E No. 11	2004/11	Ivory with Matt Avocado Green upholstery. External near-side chrome exhaust pipe. Special disc wheels. Registration No. 228DBL.
M.G.	1955	MGA "Dundrod"		2002/07	B.R.G.w. Grey seat & Black ½tonneau covering passenger seat. Single aero screen. w/s wheels. Regn. No. LBL301 Racing Nos.34 <i>(as driven by Jack Fairman in the 1955 Ulster TT at Dundrod.)</i>
M.G.	1961	Midget Mk1 2-seater Sports (open)		2008/04	Maroon with Cream upholstery. Chrome disc wheels. <i>(Dinky Toys aluminium wheels)</i>
M.G.	1996	MGF Racer	L.E. No. 21		Red w. Cream cockpit cover & driver's seat w. a semi-circular racing screen & chrome roll bar. White racing roundels on sides. Twin chrome exhaust pipes. 8-spoke alloy wheels. Racing driver.
Marauder	1951	3-seater Sports Tourer (conversion of Rover Saloon)	L.E. No. 14	2005/08	Sage Green with Beige upholstery & tonneau covering furred hood. Floor-mounted gear lever. Disc wheels with chrome hubcaps. <i>Just 15 cars built 1950 – 52. RARE!</i>
Morris	1947	Minor "Mosquito" 2-door. Saloon		1986/01	Black with white "Dinky Toys" wheels. <i>(The prototype Morris Minor model.) UNIQUE!</i>
Protea	1959	Protea Triumph 2-litre Competition Sports 2-seater	L.E. No.43	2002/11	Red with Black seats & ½ tonneau. Perforated disc wheels. Single aero screen. Racing Nos. 9. Registration plates TJ2466 – since new! <i>(Won its 1st race, the 1959 South African 6-hour Race in Pietermaritzburg driven by John Mason-Gordon & John Myers – joint designer & builder of this rare South African car & a fellow member of Cape Town's Crankhandle Club. Now 90 years old)</i>
Riley	1949	2½ litre Roadster (open)	5 of L.E.	2008/12	Red with Light Grey upholstery & wheels (Dinky type).
Swallow	1954	Doretti 2-seater. Sports	L.E. No 3	2001/07	Maroon with Light Grey seats. Putty coloured tonneau. Maroon disc wheels with chrome hubcaps.
Triumph	1938	Dolomite Coupé/Roadster (open)		1986/01	Yellow with Green seats. Yellow Dinky Toys wheels. <i>Geoff's first resin model.</i>
Triumph	1950	TRX Roadster (open)	3 of L.E.	2008/12	Silver-Grey with Matt Maroon upholstery. Disc wheels with chrome hubcaps. JUST 3 CARS BUILT.
Triumph	1952	TR2 Sports 2-seater (TR2 prototype)	14 of L.E	1992/05	Cream with Beige seats & Putty coloured tonneau. Cream perforated disc wheels with chrome hubcaps. ONLY 1 CAR BUILT.
Triumph	1953	TR2 Sports Record Car	35 of L.E.	2006/10	Pale Blue with Grey helmeted driver. Single aero screen. Pale Blue perforated disc wheels with chrome hubcaps & spats over rear wheels <i>(Timed on Jabbeke Motorway, Belgium at 124.89 m.p.h.)</i>

More photographs on the following pages

SEAR MODELS



AC Ace-Bristol



1953 Allard Palm Beach Roadster



Austin Healey Sprite Sebring



Buckler



Elva Courier



Fairthorpe Rockette



Fairthorpe Zeta



Ginetta G4 Series II



GSM Dart



Marauder



MG Midget



MGA Dundrod



Morris Mosquito



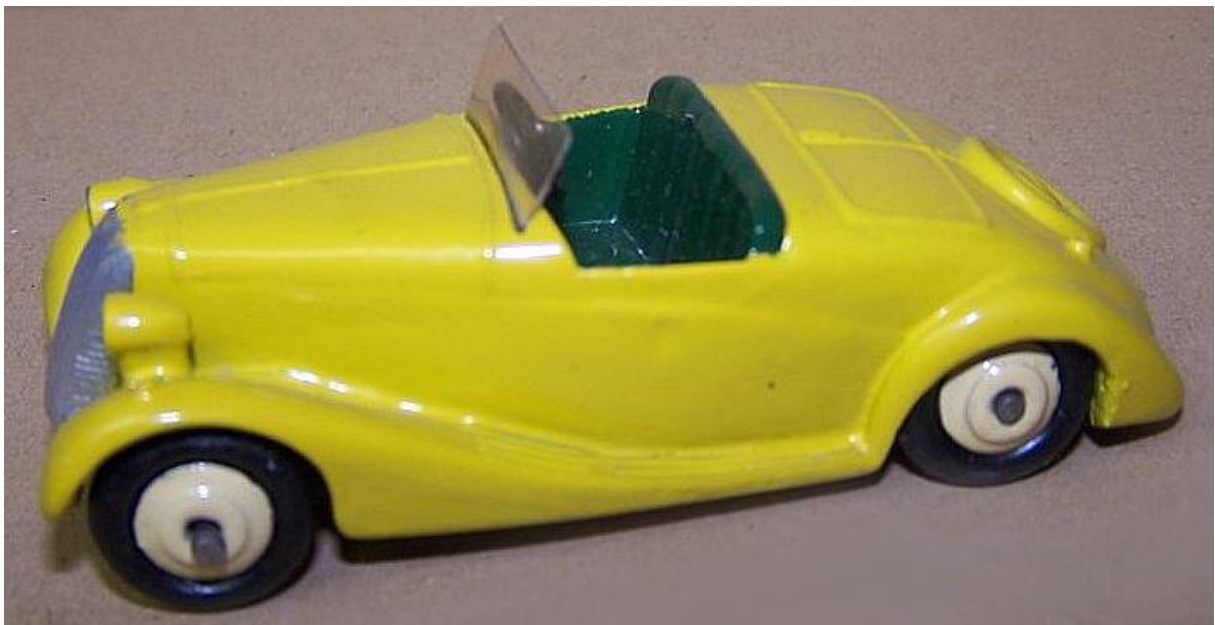
Protea



Riley Roadster



Swallow Doretti



Triumph Dolomite "Roadster (1938)"



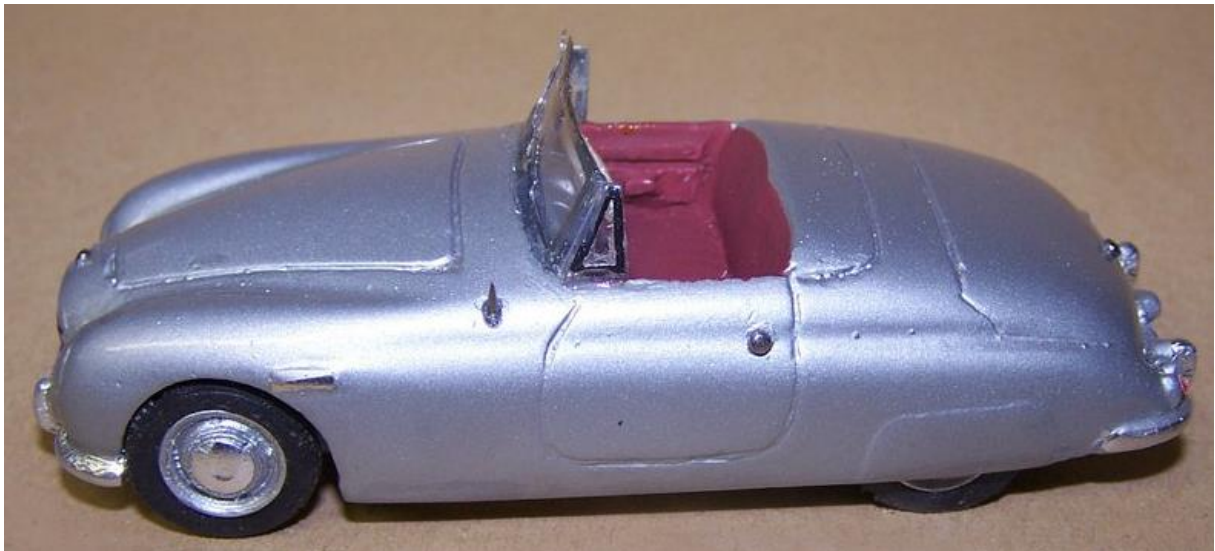
Triumph TR2 Prototype



Triumph TR2 "Jabbeke Record Car"



Triumph TR3B



Triumph TRX Roadster