



Natal Diecast Model Collectors

May 2010



Mini Broadspeed in black by Spark

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Details of next meeting:

Date: Monday 31st May 2010
Venue: VCC Clubhouse, Kloof
Time: 17:30 for 18:00 'til we end
Cost: R20-00 for non-members.
Subs due: R90-00 for the year.
R60-00 for Country Members.
Theme: 100 years of Alfa Romeo

Dates to look out for:

Saturday 29th May Annual Hobbies Fair
Bellair Primary School

Monday 31st May Natal Diecast Model Collectors Meeting
VCC -Kloof

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Help with History in the Making

For the last 18 months, Ray Strutt and David Wright have been collecting material for a book about the history of white metal transport modelling. They have had excellent co-operation from more than 70 pattern makers, casters, builders, company producers, retailers etc. and are well on the way to a fascinating book, which will tell the inside story about the people behind the models. They would like to hear from anyone who has been, or is involved with this area of the hobby, and has not been contacted by either Ray or David.

You can contact Ray or David by e-mail:

raystrutt@tiscali.co.uk

davidandchrisw@binternet.com

Dinky Models for Sale by Closed Auction.

At our end of May meeting, Tony Day will have about 20 play-worn Dinky models for sale by Closed Auction.

This is a reminder to Members that they can contact Richard Hebbon to arrange to borrow any of the clubs magazines (as per the details on the inside front cover of this newsletter)

Spark Broadspeed Mini

by Geoff Sear

Unless you're an ardent fan of the BMC Mini range I'm sure that there are not many people who have even heard of the name Ralph Broad.

In the early 60's he was one of the pioneers of super-tuning the Mini 850, and Mini Coopers under the name of 'Broadspeed'. He also had several successes on the race track.

In my opinion, one of his finest moments was when he designed the 'Broadspeed' Mini. Basically it's the standard Mini body shell, with what I think is a most pretty GT type roof and back blended to the rear of the car. I like the term 'blended' because that's just what it is. It doesn't look like an after-thought. If you ordered one, you could choose your own specifications, according to your budget.

Spark make a really nice model of this car. Despite the attention to detail, I feel that the roof line is too high. The actual car was 5" (125mm) lower. The A pillar was raked at 20 deg. And again this seems too steep. But, this is nit-picking.

Otherwise it really is a super little model. When one sees the model, you realise how small it really is. The paintwork is superb, with a nice high gloss – and photo-etching – how do they do it?

The interior detail – although difficult to see, is also correct. One last bit of nit-picking. I think the windscreen wipers should be silver.

On the other hand, if this is a model of the actual car, they may be correct, as are the small vents behind the front wheel arch. The picture I have of the car doesn't have these vents. The door handles, sliding windows, petrol filler cap are all there, and very nicely done.

I could go on forever, as this car is really one of my all-time favourites. Very highly recommended by me.

Another favourite of mine is the Spark Marcos, a really neat looking little model. Now, all Spark have to do is make the Mini Ogle.

Hi Folks !

The theme for our March meeting was "Austin Seven" and besides the many models members brought along to display, we were also most fortunate to have the 1:1 car which was driven to the meeting by Chris Brown. A number of members stood around admiring the real Austin Seven, and some even waited patiently behind when our meeting had finished, to hear the great sound of the engine being cranked and started before going home. Many thanks Chris, for helping make a memorable evening.

This is a reminder that the 2010 annual NDMC subscriptions are due – so, if you haven't yet paid, please make payment at our May meeting.

As you have already seen, a pic of the Spark Broadspeed Mini features on the front cover, and Geoff Sear has written an article about what he calls this "highly recommended" model on Page 6. For those interested, this model is for sale in the hobby shops now.

For Yesteryear collectors, pages 4 and 5 show some of the prices fetched at the recent auction of Horace Dunkley's MOY collection by Vectis Auctions in the UK. For those who may have missed this one there's a 2nd auction of his Yesteryears planned for mid-2010.

The Horace Dunkley Catalogue which is still available, and is highly recommended as a guide for Yesteryear collectors, contains much valuable information, and further details can be obtained from:

e-mail address: admin@vectis.co.uk

On the local front, only one fair is being held in late May. Please try and support this fair, to keep both your hobby and interests alive and active.

Saturday 29th May - Annual Hobbies Fair, Bellair Primary School

See you at the next meeting,

Keep collecting

Philip

Auction News - from June 2010 Die-Cast Collector.

By Mike Ennis

Matchbox Models of Yesteryear returned excellent prices with some record values recorded from the first part of Horace Dunkley's sale at Vectis recently.

The sale, over two days in March, featured some 1650 lots which resulted in a total of more than **£115,000**. A record price was paid for a Y4-4 Duesenberg, Model J Town Car and, with the buyer's commission and VAT added, the final figure fetched was **£5,045**.

There were, of course, a number of other models being purchased for four figure sums but there was something for everyone as there were also many models selling for less than **£30**.

Some of the models fetching four-figure sums were rather surprising, such as a Duesenberg Model J Town Car in red with some chassis variations from the normal models, which sold for **£3,245** after a top estimate of just **£50**. A similar situation arose with the same model which had light brown seats and an unusual dark green roof; it made **£1,680** (estimate **£80**). Another example was a 1906 Silver Ghost (Y10-3) with a silver chassis, unboxed, with a top estimate of **£260**, it realised **£1,920**.

Out of 22 lots featuring the 1938 Lagonda Drophead Coupe (Y11-13), two of them sold for **£1,320** after being offered with estimates of **£220** and **£140**; the first with green seats, grill and trunk, while the other featured a gloss black chassis and solid chrome wheels. A rare Lagonda, that was for sale was in gold with a purple chassis, the textured luggage trunk version. With a top estimate of **£1,200**, it realised **£1,920**.

Many of the other models with established high values sold very well including the purple-bodied 1910 Benz Limousine (Y3-2) realising **£3,360** (estimate **£2,200**) and an AEC type Y Lorry with the 'Osram Lamps' logo in duck egg blue with the silver radiator edging which sold for **£2,040**, doubling its estimate.

Mr Dunkley attended the sale on both days, where he gave a number of television interviews and signed copies of the hardback version of the sale catalogue. I must recommend this catalogue to anyone who is interested in the Models of Yesteryears range, as it is a great guide to the many variations of these fine models.

I understand they are still available from Vectis; the hardback copy is priced at **£70**, and the normal paperback version is priced at **£20**, and both are certainly a fine investment.

The second part of the Horace Dunkley collection containing the Matchbox Dinky Code 1 and Code 2 versions, will be offered for sale later in the year.



Horace Dunkley with the record-breaking model of the Duesenberg Model J Town Car (also shown below) that sold for **£5045** (including commission and VAT)

