

Oxford Diecast, PO Box 62, Swansea, UK, SAI 4YA TEL: 02038 877802 www.oxforddiecast.co.uk 1:76 SCALE ROVER P5B

Issue 277

UK & EIRE 2 Guineas (2.0) USA \$5.00



British Leyland introduced the Mini Metro in 1980, with a view to it being a possible successor to the popular and highly acclaimed Mini. Designed by David Bache and Harris Mann, the Metro was assembled at the Longbridge plant and came as a 3-door/5door hatchback with front wheel drive, a four speed gearbox and engine options from 1.0L to 1.3L. Top speed was 84 mph.for the basic model. With a length of 3,400 mm and a width of 2,250 mm and boasting a spacious interior, it was particularly popular for use in the city too. The price was pretty attractive as well. You could buy a new Austin Mini Metro basic 1.0L model for £3.095.

The Metro was revealed over a 3-week period in September 1980. British Leyland chose to sail from Liverpool to The Isle of Man aboard a cruise ship which proved highly newsworthy and attracted huge attention. The Austin Mini Metro was popularised to a notable extent by one famous purchaser of the early version.

The 19 year old Lady Diana Spencer bought one at the time when she was attracting a great deal of attention prior to her marriage to the then Prince Charles.

Registered MPB 909W from 1980/81, it is Lady Diana's Metro that Oxford has chosen to launch this new model.

Decorated in the ruby red Emberlow colour scheme, our Austin Mini Metro is based on the 3-door version. The exterior features a fine double white stripe along the waist of the car, with a similar black stripe below. The majority of the exterior trim is black including the distinctive radiator grille. which also has the squared off headlights embedded into it with the Austin blue badge in the centre. To the rear the Austin mini Metro signage is printed in silver along the lower edge of the boot.

The Austin Mini Metro was the best selling mini-car in its early production days and was voted Car of the Year in 1983. During its 18-year production span, the Metro clocked up over 2 million sales. However, it is a very rare sight today.









OXFORD

We are back after a busy Christmas and New Year period; we hope you all had a great time celebrating with family and loved ones. It is a bit of a strange start to the Year for us, you may have seen on our social media pages regarding the latest announcements of future products that were due to take place early February. Unfortunately, due to a family health issue, these will need to be postponed and we will update you in due course. As you are maybe aware we are a family run company, so we are having to divert our attention elsewhere while we manage a few things.

We are saddened to hear the news in the last few weeks regarding the closure of one of the big retailers, Hattons, they had a huge impact on the industry and will be greatly missed. As well as this, it was announced that the Model Rail show at Warley NEC will no longer be taking place. With the departure of this show as well as the Great Dorset Steam Fair, we are actively looking for new shows to attend for 2024/2025.

New Tooling Items are progressing well, and we regularly post updates and images on our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Youtube and TikTok, so make sure you are following these pages if you use them to watch the developmental journey of some of our items.





Rover P5B - Arden Green - HM the Queen

Rover introduced the P5 in 1958. The car comprised the first Rover to feature unitary bodywork styled by in-house designer David Bache. Its elegant look included an equally well-appointed interior which would see the saloon version become a firm favourite vehicle for executive, Government and even Royal followers. Here at Oxford, we have chosen to launch our own P5B as owned and driven by HM Queen Elizabeth II. Our authentic replica is painted Arden Green and registered JGY 280. HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother also favoured and owned a Rover P5B too. Our dark green 1:76 scale replica is decorated in Arden Green, a colour which Her Majesty specified particularly

on the original. The external trim is finished in silver and the authentic wheels are silver and black. The tooling also incorporates the bespoke fog lights placed under the front headlights. The gold Rover badge is embedded in the distinctive Rover radiator above the JGY 280 number plate. To the rear the Rover marque features on the boot above the number plate recess. The interior seating is moulded in grey with black dashboard and steering wheel. Two of Her Majesty's P5Bs - JGY 280 and JGY 280K - went to the British Motor Museum in Gaydon, Warwickshire, while another one is still kept at Sandringham, where she used it extensively to drive round her estate.



The Classic Mini was designed by Sir Alec Issigonis and caused a sensation when it first appeared in 1959. Its cult status has never waned even after 60 years with no sign of abating. Back in the day, British Leyland developed an enhanced version of the Mini aimed at the young and sporty motorists, for whom a car with a bit more oomph and an image was just the thing. It now had a 1275cc engine under the bonnet, a top speed of 86 mph, and a series inline four engine which produced 59bhp with front

wheel drive via a 4-speed manual transmission. All for £1572. There were refinements to the exterior body as well, including optional metallic paint, lots of exterior chrome work and a flash along the sides sporting the Mini 1275 GT status.

For Oxford's seventh release on this racy little model, it comes in a lemon lime citrus colour scheme with chrome and black trim. The interior is black, including the steering wheel and our vehicle is registered JCG 929N from 1974.





The Oxford Coca Cola fleet is widening with vehicles from across the ages with relevant colour scheme of the period to match. Here we see the Mercedes Sprinter taking on the red and white mantle, registered CO14 COA. The interior is moulded in a contrasting black. Our Mercedes Sprinter is a 1:76 scale replica of the second generation of this popular small commercial van

which was upgraded in 2006, the original having been introduced in 1995. It was voted Van of the Year in 2007 and is still at the forefront of the class today.

The clean modern Coca Cola graphics include a wide white wave sweeping along both sides of the van, whilst the famous logo is printed simply in white on the front, sides and back of the vehicle. Very striking nonetheless.





Scania T Cab Cylindrical Tanker - Wilson McCurdy

Oxford's highly detailed long-bonneted Scania T Cab has drawn some interesting trailers and none more so than the recently introduced cylindrical tanker. For only the tanker's third release we see it in the livery of Northern Ireland based Wilson McCurdy, founded in 1961, who have a diverse heavy haulage business in Aughafatten, Ballymena, specialising in bulk and general haulage, storage and fuel distribution. Their highly skilled drivers carry a variety of loads throughout Ireland, the UK and Europe. The cab and trailer are registered MH55 XLT from 2005, which was also the last year that Scania produced the long bonneted T Cab. However, the vehicle is still favoured by truckers, especially when pulling tipper trailers or tankers as we have here.

The cab decoration is printed with a mass of company

information and we particularly like the two cartoon characters along the edge of the roof between the Topline lettering. Another detail takes in a bit of local history. The riband above the radiator is printed with the words 'Slemish Rose'. Slemish is the 437m () 1437 ft) high remains of an ancient volcano just outside Ballymena which can be seen for miles around.

The trailer is finished in chrome with silver wheels and side bars. The gantry, ladders and side pipes are also silver. To the rear, the tanker end dishes are painted white, the wheel centres red, with other trim finished in chrome or black. The tanker sits on a red chassis. The bright orange-red Wilson McCurdy graphics are printed on the sides and tanker back. This is another great model for truck collectors and certainly not to be missed by 1:76 scale collectors in Ireland.



ATLAS HAULAGE BUNDLE

A combination of randomly selected Atlas Haulage models with a value of over £90 approximately. Suits the first-time collector, or an experienced modeller. Perfect Ideal Gift. Includes 10 pieces minimum.

Limited Availability. FREE Shipping.

Please Note this box is chosen at random and no changes can be made. Your statutory rights still apply. UK ONLY.

Atlas Haulage Bundle

ATLASHAULAGE 1:76

OXFORD1:120 SCALE

Austin Low Loader Taxi - Oxford Blue

Austin has been synonymous with taxis since the end of the 1920s when dealers Mann and Overton sponsored a new Austin cab for London. The new model LL or Low Loader first appeared in 1934 and became an instant success, due mainly to its very attractive price and reliability. Taxi fleets often had their own paint scheme, so it appeared in several colours.

You have seen this colour scheme before too in Oxford's larger scale, but we are pleased to bring it back in this rich blue version incorporating the high level of detail, even down to the four colour interior from dashboard to seating. It is registered FLH 626.

Austin Low Loader Taxi -NEW

Oxford Blue

120AT002

Land Rover Series 2 LWR Canvas - Bronze Green

The Land Rover Series II was launched in 1958, being superseded by the Series IIA in 1961. The off road Land Rover came with a number of variants, including 2-door or 4-door option; petrol or diesel; long or short wheel base; and selectable two or four wheel drive feature.

The Series II was the first vehicle to use the well-known 2.25 litre petrol engine, which produced 72 hp and was closely related to the 2.0 litre diesel unit still in use today. The Series II also lent itself to a variety of uses in both rural and urban life.

Here we see it in 120 scale as the two door, long wheel base version with canvas back, finished in the signature bronze green which Land Rover adopted across their whole range past and present. The canvas effect is moulded in a lighter muted green than the body. Note the specially applied black mask

Land Rover Series 2 LWB NEW Canvas - Bronze Green

120LAN2011 1:120 £7.45

behind the distinctive LR radiator grille. The interior is bronze green. Our model is registered YAC 654.

Morris 1000 - Royal Mail

Royal Mail vehicles have always had a particular following and the inclusion of our Morris 1000 Van, previously seen in a larger scale, will be equally popular in 1/120 scale. As its larger counterpart, it is registered WLC 535G.

Decorated in the corporate Royal Mail colour scheme of bright red with black trim, our model has been given an illustrated billboard on the side inviting the public to 'Own a pocket Post Office buy a book of stamps'. Above the billboard the Royal Mail lettering with the Royal insignia is printed in gold. The side doors carry its Post Office number 12001 and the model is rounded off with another finite detail - the silver,

red, white and blue Morris badge on the bonnet.

Morris 1000 - Royal Mail 120MM015 1:120 £7.45

OXFORD1:120 SCALE

Scammell Mechanical Horse Van Trailer - LNER

Oxford railway enthusiasts have already been treated to this model in 1:76 scale and here it is in the smaller scale in the

exact same detail.

The concept for the Scammell Mechanical Horse was devised in the early 1930s by Napier & Son. The tractor unit and detachable back

and detachable back
was a replacement
for horse-drawn
vehicles and
Scammell Lorries Ltd
so liked the idea they

purchased the 3-wheeled design and following some refinements, this strong and sturdy vehicle became the favoured transport for pulling loads of several tons. A firm favourite with railway companies because of its manoeuvrability, it was a familiar sight in railway yards in particular, including LNER.

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IN E R

EXPRESS PARCELS
SERVICE

Scammell Mechanical Horse Van Trailer - LNER

120MH004 1:120 £9.95

Here we see it as one of their Express Parcel Service vans, decorated in a rich dark blue with black chassis and roof and the model features a red band along the skirt of the trailer. The interesting artwork on the trailer is a scene from the Lanark Steel Works. The 1930s vintage vehicle is registered EGT 886.

Bedford OB Coach - Southdown

The Bedford OB Coach was first introduced in 1930 and had a wheelbase of 14ft 6ins, designed to carry 29 passengers. It was fitted with a 27hp petrol engine and had a 4-speed gearbox. Very few were made before World War II but it resumed production afterwards when it became highly popular, with over 12,500 being made

before it ceased production in 1956.

Southdown, with its headquarters in Brighton, was one of the most prolific users of Bedford OB coaches and their bright green, cream and gold liveried vehicles plied the South Coast carrying enthusiastic passengers along the way. Southdown Motor Services had a history of providing public transport; tracing its roots right back to a pair of steam buses in the early 20th Century.

For this release, our 1:120 scale coach, registered JCD 370, is on its way to London according to the front

Bedford OB Coach - Southdown

1200B002 1:120 £8.95

destination blind. The bright green body colour is complemented with a darker green roof, mudguards and wheel trim. Below the masked cream flash along the waist, the Southdown lettering is printed gold.



OXFORD AMERICAN 1:87 SCALE



The American Dodge B-1B pickup was manufactured by Dodge (Chrysler) between 1948 and 1953, assembled in Los Angeles and Stockton, California and Warren, Michigan. The B-1B was a standard ½ ton truck with a 95hp flathead straight-six engine and 3-speed manual gearbox. The B Series also featured a unique 'pilot house' cab with optional rear quarter light windows, all of which increased visibility for the driver. The engine was moved forward and the front axle moved back to improve weight distribution. Increased all-round space in the cab and improved rubberised mounts meant it could seat three people in comfort. The cargo area sides were also raised to improve load capacity.

Our latest Oxford Dodge carries a 1948 registration plate from New York, numbered MN 10. It represents a truck operated by the Railway Express Agency (REA) in their Air Express Division, according to the colourful graphics. The cargo must be varied and sometimes large as a tooling modification sees the 1:87 scale vehicle with new side boards along the length of the rear round the planked out flatbed section. The dark green bodywork incorporates gold, red and white graphics including the Dodge name. Additional detail comprises red wheel surrounds with silver hub caps, the distinctive Dodge radiator grille and a split windscreen, complete with wiper blades.

The B-IB certainly looks the part and will add a new dimension to the previous three models released so far.



1955 Buick Century - Carlsbad Black/ Windsor Grey/Dove White

The Buick Century was the name given to a series of the company's cars at various intervals between 1936 and 2005. During that time, the shapes varied dramatically and our Buick Century is modelled on one of the vehicles produced by Buick during the mid 1950s, which used their same smaller, lighter Buick body but incorporated a

original vehicle, the Oxford model is based on the 2-door coupé or sedan.

Having released it in a wide range of colour schemes and purposes, including a Highway Patrol and a New York Taxi, Oxford have brought it out with its latest look as a three coloured private sedan. The subtle grey and white body is topped with a black roof. The interior is a contrasting ruby red with black steering wheel. Our model hails from Massachusetts as H68 781.

OXFORD AMERICAN 1:87 SCALE



1957 Mercury Montclair - Tuxedo Black

The Mercury Montclair sat midway in the Ford Mercury hierachy with the Turnpike a little above and the Monterey slotted below. Externally, it differed little from the Turnpike apart from the trim and we are pleased to offer the latest release which shows off the finish to great advantage. The 2 door coupé appears in a gleaming black colour scheme, sporting a gold flash along the sides and with a mass of chrome trim. The wide chrome radiator

grille incorporates the

deep V badge and the Mercury lettering featured silver along the edge of the bonnet. Registered in the state of Kansas 'The Wheat State', it is numbered PR T2444.

The interior including the dashboard and steering wheel is moulded in pale ivory with black seating. No US model of this era should be complete without the customary whitewall tyres, faithfully reproduced on our 1:87 scale vehicle.



OXFORD 1:43 SCALE



Mercedes Whitby Morrison Mondial Ice Cream Van - Tonibell

Founded by Bryan Whitby in 1962, the company acquired the Morrison Industries Electrofreeze business in 1989. following which it became known as Whitby Morrison Mondial. With a purpose-built factory in Cheshire, they are recognised as the world's leading manufacturer of ice cream vans and have a worldwide following, operating in over 50 countries. Each of the company's ice cream vans is a bespoke and a unique build. The company remains a family business and now operates under Managing Director Stuart Whitby with the support of his two sons Edward - Operations Manager - and Kristopher, Production Manager. The management team is further supported by their dynamic and highly skilled workforce. The authentic 1:43 scale Oxford models feature the outstanding colour schemes of the original and become

more decorative with each release, so the latest replica in the famous Tonibell livery certainly does not disappoint. Against a basic bright pink and black body scheme, the allover printing is a blaze of pastels, including the stylised Tonibell cow complete with its famous bell collar looking out from all sides. Notice too the addition of two ice cream cones fixed to the edge of the roof above the windscreen. The wealth of thirst-quenching offerings feature across the back window, from Slush Puppies to Pepsi, whilst the wide variety of ice creams covers the area round the serving hatch on the nearside of the van. The ice cream van is aptly registered B18 YUM.

Bedford HA Van - B Taylor Building Services (Auf Wiedersehen)

HA021

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Fred Dibnah Aveling & Porter Road Roller & Living Wagon

76APR004 | SCALE | PRICE | 1:76 £33.95 |



Duple Britannia - York Bros.

76DB003 | SCALE | PRICE | £24.95 |



BMC Mobile Training Unit

76BMC001 | SCALE | PRICE | £16.45 |

MODEL (AVAILABLE) AGAIN

BMC Car Transporter & Two Minis BMC Competitions Dept

76BMC003 | SCALE | PRICE | £32.95 |



OXFORD AVIATION 1:72
SCALE



Grumman Hellcat F6F-5 - Lt Cdr Willem E.Eder, VS-1 US Navy, 1945

The Grumman F6F Hellcat was a carrier-based World War Two fighter aircraft. It took its first flight in June 1942 and was fully operational the following year and would become arguably the US Navy's most successful fighter. During service with the US Navy. US Marine Corps and the Royal Navy FAA, the Hellcat was credited with destroying over 5,200 enemy aircraft, more than any other Allied naval aircraft.

The 1:72 scale Oxford model of Lt Cdr William F Eder's F6F refers to their period of service in the VS-I Squadron - a carrier-based Scouting Squadron in 1945. Leading up to that point, he had already had an illustrious career. He had entered naval flight training and got his wings in 1940 and was immediately assigned to naval air squadron, where he served for the next two years. During this time, William Eder received his DFC for action in the Battle of Bougainville. He then took part in the Battle of the Coral Sea, earning the Navy Cross. Deployed from

officer amd on to commanding officer. He accepted a commission into the regular Navy in 1943 and moved to Atlantic duties. For his action in supporting the occupation of Morocco, William Eder was awarded the Silver Star. Moving forward to Lt Cdr Eder's leadership of 29 FS Squadron aboard aircraft carrier USS Cabot, between October 1944 and April 1945 - the longest extensive combat in history - they shot down 112 enemy aircraft, including further successes by Lt Cdr Eder, cementing his well-earned 'Ace' status. William 'Bill' Ernest Eder survived well into his 80s, dying in 2009. Celebrating his achievements, our Grumman Hellcat is decorated in the midnight blue camouflage scheme with white graphics including the White Star on the fuselage, wing and underwing, with Lt Cdr Eder's VS-1 squadron markings on the tail fin. Like any WWII Ace, pilots were used to adding their tallies on the side of the fuselage. If you look closely beneath the cockpit window, you will see the bombs indicating the Luftwaffe 'kills' illustrated

learned everything from gunnery to operations executive



Dornier Do 335 Pfeil Smithsonian Museum

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