

MOTORY JOBERT'S MOTORING JOKES

HOME HINTS No 82



Standing about in waterlogged fields or on a sopping dockside is a common cause of rust on new cars, whilst older vehicles usually corrode as a result of being left in a garage or out of doors. Failure to blow-dry after exposure to rain, crash damage, vandalism, cats, gritty dusters or a salty atmosphere will all accelerate corrosion.



The application under pressure into hidden box sections of bituminous inhibitors, brushed rubber compound sealants, self-creeping hydrocarbonated sludges or cling oils as well as sacrificial anodes and proprietary wax lacquers can to some extent retard the process, but visible rust should be tackled without delay at molecular level.



Using a wire wheel and wet-and-dry, remove any flaked, pitted or bubbling surfacant before coating with chemical neutralisers and allowing to go off overnight. Any spillage may cause skin or small pets to blister. Rub down, prime and feather-in new paintwork to nearest seam. If metal loss is extensive, plug, spray-up and trade-in vehicle.

Natal Diecast Model Collectors

March 2012



YAS09 1931 Garrett 6 ton Steam Wagon "Rainford Potteries Ltd" (particularly noted for its unique cab design) in blue / grey by Models of YesterYear

Natal Diecast Model Collectors

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Details of next meeting:

Date: Monday 26th March 2011
Venue: VCC Clubhouse, Kloof
Time: 17:30 for 18:00 'till we end
Cost: R20-00 for non-members
Subs due: R100-00 for the year.
R60-00 for Country Members
Theme: "Steam Wagons, Vehicles & Stationary Steam Engines"

Dates to look out for:

Monday March 26th Natal Diecast Model Collectors Meeting
VCC – Kloof

Sunday May 6th Vintage Baynesfield "Music in May" Fair
Baynesfield Museum (On N3 - Exit 61 from DBN then R56 – Richmond area

Saturday 2nd June Annual Hobbies Fair
Bellair Primary School

****Note:** Perhaps the name "Diecast" has become so overused, that it now refers to and covers all models ? much like the name "Hoover" represents all vacuum cleaners to many folk. Sometimes it's really difficult to tell the difference between a diecast and a resin model today - especially if the model-maker decides to put a heavy chunk of metal inside the model. And except for weight, it's similarly difficult to tell the difference between whitemetal and diecast. So, perhaps at some future stage, we "diecast" enthusiasts could well be flourishing our latest acquisition and proudly announcing "It's resin of course !!"

Just as a matter of interest, below is a comparison of the names of the other similar model collector clubs I know of in SA:

BRRrrrrrrrrrrrrmmmm – from Aliwal North

Cape Models & Toy Club – from the fairest Cape

CARS – Collectors Automobile Replica Society - from Johannesburg

MAP – Mini Auto Pretoria – from Pretoria

EPMCTCC –Eastern Province Model Collectors and Toy Collectors Club - from Port Elizabeth – but this club seems to have "dissolved" recently – no more newsletters are being issued at present.

And from the UK - one club calls themselves North East Diecast Collectors Club

So why do we want to change the name ? Is it the "Natal" or "Diecast" part which some members may feel should be changed ? Presumably the "Model" and "Collectors" part is OK ? So, after giving the matter some thought, I don't believe there's a problem with the NDMC name "as is" and which seems fine to me – so my vote is to retain the status-quo.

But we are a club of many members, so that's only my opinion, and we'll ask members, get possible suggestions and hold a free and democratic vote. What do you think ? – suggest you bring along your thoughts and proposals for a lively debate at our next meeting.

The Second Great Debate - a proposal to change the name of our NDMC club

By Philip Ellis

This name change has, and as can probably be expected, opened a proverbial can of worms, and possibly stirred up a hornet's nest too !!

And as can probably also be expected, I'm still in two minds regarding a proposed name change to our club, so below are some of my thoughts:

- 1) A name change including the region, would probably see us having to drop "Natal" and use "KZN" instead I don't know how "popular" this name will be - and so, if we really want to change the name and at the same time stay away from politics - my suggestion would be "East Coast Toy Club" (Acronym ECTC*) - or a similar name along these lines.
- 2) Interestingly too, the 2011/ 2012 Durban Telephone Directory lists a whole page of "Natal" firms and businesses - so it seems that at least for now, our club would be in good company.
- 3) We subscribe to a UK collectors magazine called "Diecast Collector". As well as diecast models, they also cater for a variety of other modelling materials including white metal, resin, plastic, tin plate - you name it. But I haven't as yet seen any proposals to change the magazine name. So perhaps "Warner Group Publications" who publish "Diecast Collector" have decided to be practical, and allow diecast to cover all materials ?

****But having said that, it also doesn't necessarily mean that our NDMC shouldn't be amongst the leaders when it comes to name changes.**

- 4) Keep the name "as is".

*OR East Coast Model & Toy Club (ECMTC)

*OR East Coast Diecast Collectors - (ECDC)

*OR Natal Diecast Collectors (NDC) - Ian mentioned this name - and the possible confusion there was many years ago, with the now defunct "Natal Durban Corporation"

Hi Folks !

Our January meeting was well attended - and we welcome new members Dusan Milanovic and Rowan Sear - and we all wish them both many enjoyable years ahead with our club.

Our thanks to Thierry Kesselaar for his most enjoyable and interesting presentation, which included general monitoring by special cameras, manning road blocks and speed monitoring on our roads, including moving violations, average speed prosecutions and general "bribing"

Mike Serrurier has written an interesting article on The Great Debate - and some of the pros and cons of using Die-cast, White Metal, or Resin for model-making. And the bottom line seems to be that once the model is painted and put into your display cabinet, it's very difficult to tell what it's made from.

Mike is also offering a service to make model spares for members.

See both his articles in this newsletter.

Mike has also suggested that we look at the merits of starting our evening meetings a little earlier, so we can go home before its dark. Many members have retired during the last few years, but I also realise that there are also still some members who are working / have other commitments.

At our last meeting, Ian Sutherland suggested we look at a name change for our model club - known for many years as Natal DieCast Model Collectors.

See The Second Great Debate in this newsletter - so bring your ideas and suggestions along, and we can discuss both these topics at our next meeting.

Richard Hebborn is holding another Annual Hobbies Fair at the Bellair Primary School on Saturday 2nd June 2012. Richard's contact Nos are on page 2 of the newsletter, and tables are free if you display, and R100.00 for sellers.

On Saturday 17th March I went to see Colin Healy's stationary steam exhibition at his home in Forest Hills. I thought this was most fascinating and worth-while, and I would thoroughly recommend this visit to other members in future. Chris Brown was stoking the fires below the house, and Ian Sutherland upstairs (seen stoking the boiler, and running the model trains respectively)

Well done guys !!! - See Chris for details of future steam open dates.

See you at the next meeting,

Keep collecting

Philip

THE BIG DEBATE - Models made in Diecast, White Metal, or Resin

By Mike Serrurier

Firstly I must say I don't necessarily have all the answers in today's world where there are a variety of models and what they're made of. It's the collector's choice what to buy.

Diecast

Let's start with Diecasting models.

Firstly we decide on a particular model. A wooden mock-up is made and sent to the Sales and Marketing directors for approval. Once approved, the model goes to the drawing office where the drawings of the die moulds and various parts will be drawn up. From there the tool maker must produce the dies for production. After casting the model, and once in production, the model goes along the conveyor to large 6 sided drums lined with rubber and filled with small graded stones and soapy water. As the drum turns, it cleans the models, not from dirt, but from sharp edges. From there the castings emerge bright and shiny. They are then enamelled and spray painted, then assembled and QC and boxed, ready for delivery to the shops.

That is just a brief description of diecasting which incidentally is called Mazak or Zamak. It's an alloy containing 3-4% aluminium, 1-2% copper and 92-96% zinc.

As can be seen with Diecasting, and mainly because of the cost of producing the dies to withstand high temperatures, the overheads in general are very high.

White Metal

Very interesting. Produces high quality models, heavy to the touch and lead based.

Firstly a brass master is made up of the model, then stripped and all the parts are then placed on a platter, a round piece of soft rubber approx. the size of a dinner plate. With a scalpel channels are made from the centre to the outer of each to allow for the molten white metal to run. The top rubber is placed on the bottom rubber forming the other half of all the parts. In engineering terms a male and female mould is formed which is then placed in a heated press which vulcanizes the rubber. After that, all the parts and bits and pieces that make up the brass master are extracted from the mould and let production begin.

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A centrifugal casting machine is used - or as we know it, a spin casting machine which spins around. From the top the molten metal is poured into the mould from the top of the machine. What happens, is the centrifugal force fills all the cavities with white metal, the machine is then stopped, the rubber mould is taken out of the two plates which are separated, allowing the parts to be removed. In this case the model and parts can be "cleaned" by hand with a metal file, sprayed whatever colour, assembled, boxed, and there's your white metal model.

Resin

As we know, it is even simpler to make a resin model, or should I say less intensive. Your master can be resin, which is then blanked off for the parts not to be moulded in a box shape with the top end open and the liquid rubber is then poured in. After approx 12 to 18 hours drying time it is cured and the master can be extracted.

The next step is a two part mould which involves leaving the master in, taking out the plastercine and filling up with liquid rubber, not forgetting to coat the rubber parts with a layer of Vaseline or cream so that the two rubbers (male and female) don't stick to each other.

Liquid resin is a two part mixture which when poured in to the mould solidifies in a couple of minutes. It is wise to leave it for ½ an hour. After that the parts or blanks can be taken out and the model is ready for painting and assembly.

So there we have it. Diecasting, White Metal and Resin.

Firstly Diecasting is very expensive. Not the finished product, but the overheads are extremely high from the bosses to the accountant, sales, marketing, maintenance, tool room, assembly line, plant and machinery, not forgetting the cleaners and the tea maker.

White metal and Resin models are more expensive but to produce does not require a big capital outlay. In fact both could be done from home in the garage.

There are a number of these "cottage industries" overseas who work this way. Marsh Models and Crossway are two of them whereby they contract out all the castings, windows, tyres, photo etching, painting and then all these guys do is assemble and package.

Local Spares Service for Models

Mike Serrurier is offering a spares service for models, and says as long as he cover his costs that's the main thing.

Pallet for Pallet Jekta van Bedford delivery van Dinky Toys	R20ea
Plastic stretcher with patient for ambulance	R20ea
Steering wheels Jeep Land Rover	R7ea
Steering wheels sports cars	R4ea
Hook bkd lorry crane	R5ea
Car tyres	R1ea
Super Toy tyres	R1.50ea
Racing driver figures 1/43 for diorama not Dinky	R10ea

Vacform windows, spun aluminium wheels, and spoke wheels can be made up on request.

Contact Mike on (031) 3124923 or 0828223106

PS SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENTS - Members please note: If your 2012 NDMC subscription has not already been paid, this will be your last newsletter.

Suggested NDMC Meeting Start Times

Suggestion 1: 5.30pm for 6.00pm (i.e. as is now)

Suggestion 2: 5.00pm for 5.30pm

Suggestion 3: 4.30pm for 5.00pm

Suggestion 4: 4.00pm for 4.30pm

Other

Print Name

Sign

Suggested NDMC Name Change

Suggestion 1: The NDMC name should remain as is.

Suggestion 2:

Suggestion 3:

Suggestion 4:

Print Name

Sign