

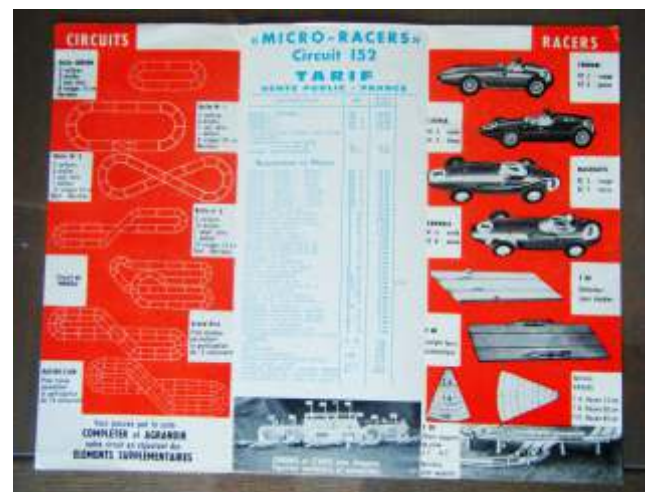
EDITORIAL

Welcome to my sixth Newsletter, this includes articles about a later Micro-Racers leaflet produced by Exico below and opposite, two new Pit Buildings, a couple of articles on the Wrenn motors, progress on the new replacement box lid, a Wrenn layout and a colour variant of the Circuit Leaflet. I do hope that you enjoy reading this.



EXICO MICRO RACERS LEAFLET

A later Micro Racers Price List has recently been seen offered for sale in France on eBay, unfortunately when I enquired further about it the vendor said that he had 'lost' it. Luckily he had taken some higher resolution photos of it which he kindly sent to me. These are included opposite and show that Exico had used the artworks previously generated for use on their first Instruction Manual and added a couple of photos and some new illustrations to the inner side. From the style of what Exico had printed previously, I assume that it was printed on a sheet of A4 sized glossy paper in colour on both sides, which meant that they could use the previous artwork, it was then folded into three which would make it 210 x 99mm. This Price List actually is a replacement for the Catalogue since it includes some circuit layouts and details of the available cars, track as well as the full price list. This would seem to make economical sense since a French language Catalogue would not be necessary by combining the two. It includes the Vanwall and Maserati cars so this would mean that it was printed after their UK launch of November 1962. This leaflet features the standard Exico coding of EO 6310 adding weight to its probable printing date of 1963. Interestingly it includes a number of items which were never offered for sale as part of Wrenn's UK range: with products for cleaning the track, an antistatic brush and even trees! The seller subsequently re-advertised the leaflet on eBay and it has now been sold.... luckily he found it.



RACING PIT VARIANTS

Some of you may remember that back in Newsletter No3, I listed the Racing Pit building variants that had been produced. Well I have recently discovered two new variants but I am not sure what they are. A plain white and a plain grey version. Unfortunately one of the previous owners had attempted to stick some gummed paper advertisements on them with polystyrene cement! The remainder of these have been carefully removed but this has understandably damaged the surface of the plastic. However they are certainly something I have never seen before nor have heard anything about previously, so they may actually be prototypes. They seem to have been moulded from the same tool. The first one has just been moulded in white polystyrene similar to the usually found versions but without any printed or painted elements. They could just be very early mouldings since there are very fine fill lines on some of the surfaces and the area around the flag supports on the white one are not as clean as the normal buildings previously seen nor even the grey one. The one that has been moulded in grey polystyrene, is the same colour used for the Cleaning Gauge and the Bridge Supports. At first I thought that it was a normal Racing Pit that had been painted but no, it had actually been moulded in grey polystyrene. Again this building has no painting or printing like the white one. However there are two significant differences to both of these to the standard building. As you are probably aware the pit name boards are moulded with a slight slope backwards and on the production building there are a pair of small narrow vertical supports either side of the slot to take and support the number tile. These supports are not present on either of these examples and luckily there was a grey number tile with the grey building and this significantly has a sloping back to accommodate the face to match the angle of the pit name board making it unique to this building. As I have mentioned on the website, the number tile could also be used in the Lap Counter. So this further re-inforces the possibility that these could both be early examples of Pit Building prototypes. Secondly for the keen-eyed among you will notice that the small steps under each door at the back of the building are also missing. See the photos opposite and if you have any information on these, as usual, it would be gratefully received.



WRENN MOTORS

I have finally seen a new Wrenn DC motor in a bag, which could possibly confirm that the M1 DC Motors were all simply available bagged. Please see photo below.



WRENN MAXIMISER MOTOR

The motor used in the later 9-volt cars was one of Wrenn's custom made motors and was also used to power the boat in their Master Mariner set. When it was used in the Wrenn 9-volt cars the motor cover had to be removed to enable it to be fitted inside the car bodies. Please see the photos below.



WRENN 152 LAYOUT

This layout below was recently offered for sale on eBay with a starting bid of £5.00! This seems to be constructed in two sections which fit together into an outer timber frame and has pieces of 'unpainted' Wrenn track inserted over the main central joint between the baseboards. It also seems that the builder modified a number of track pieces to give a 'split section' where the two lanes diverge taking different routes and there is also a long, curved chicane section. Did you buy it?



WRENN

formula

152

NEWSLETTER No6

SEPTEMBER 2017

NEW 1st GENERATION BOX LIDS

The number of early boxes that are seen for sale with tatty box lids is not really surprising. These are all over 50 years of age and at the end of the day are just toy containers that have been and continue to be used. They were constructed from strawboard panels which were held together with a printed glossy paper cover and a matt white paper inner. The gummed paper cover did adhere well originally but as the boxes were used the corners split and then some of the lid sides have become detached or lost over the years.

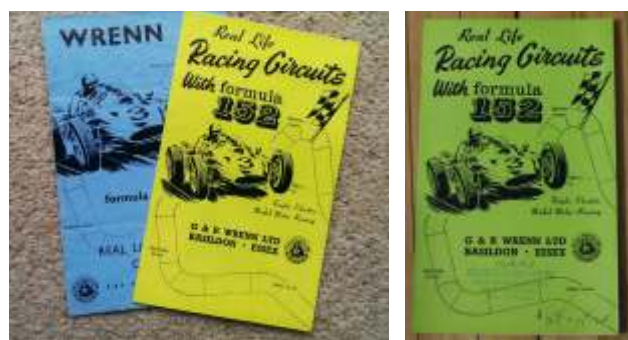
As I have mentioned previously, I have had the artwork for these early boxes regenerated and I am intending to have a small number of reproduction box lids produced. My initial thoughts were to have a new outer vinyl printed so that the original box lid could be retained but this has proven to be a less than ideal solution for a variety of reasons. Therefore having complete replacement lids made was the sensible option.

Please see the photo below of the production sample together with it's shipping carton. So they are getting nearer.



RACING CIRCUITS LEAFLET

A different colour version of the later Racing Circuits leaflet has just been seen with the cover printed in Green as opposed to the more common, much lighter Yellow/Green version. It has been over-stamped with the address of the local model shop supplier in the US in Massachusetts with a date of mid December 1963. Have you seen any other colour variants?



USEFUL CONTACTS

Site includes a forum for all slot car manufacturers including Wrenn 152 and a Swap Shop.
www.slotforum.com

Also try Rob Miller's <http://wrenn152.freeforums.org>

Site covers Wrenn railways and Wrenn 152 and includes a list of currently available items for sale.
www.wrennspecialist.co.uk

French manufacturers of reproduction urethane tyres for Wrenn 152 who sell either direct online at www.slotcarstyres.com or via eBay as seller dauremy.