

The Auction – “the Best Night of the Year”

September – we didn’t need the heaters! A fantastic day for a fantastic night. The culmination of much planning and preparation by collectors and sellers. Collectors deciding which favorites they can be separated from. Sellers looking forward to getting some cash. Every body looking forward to a bargain. The Loftus Hall is open a little before 3pm and the set-up starts. One of the nice things about our Auction is members feel free to pitch in and help where they see it’s needed.

Tables – more than ever – are set up all the way along the front as usual, and for the first time along the end wall. The great unpack and arrange begins. The hall soon fills with chairs and it’s not long before it looks ready. Thanks to all the helpers.

Lot numbers and listings are issued, and for the next hour plus the tables are covered in the feast of selection that is on offer to the highest bidder. It is obvious how big the auction is this year as lots on the tables need constant rearranging to fit in number order. Five milk crates of used track sit under the tables with other larger lots. The tables are filled and everyone starts the “look and mark the list” process. I grab the chance to say hello to a few new faces and am thrilled to meet John and Lorraine Farlow who have come up from Donvale in Victoria especially for the Auction, and Dr Philip Norrie attending his first Club Auction. Philip is amongst other things a keen Hornby collector.

The start time slips from 5 to 6 because there is so much to look at! There are 370 separately listed lots, with another 30 in multiple lots. 400 lots in total! Just time for a final lap of the hall.

Auctioneer Rod Dixon decides a target of a minute per lot or we will never finish.

He is right, 60 seconds, fast and furious.

Andrew Moir, Vice President, collects entry money and checks that everyone has the night’s Auction List – on your mark, get set :



Poetry in motion! Rod and Martin

First lot – no sale, second lot – sold, and we’re off. Some real bargains here. Then one for the serious collector - Starter on rostrum mint boxed for \$40. So rare in this condition.



A Rover 3500 Green Qld, hard to find and an absolute bargain at \$37.

A Jaguar E-Type mint boxed for only \$35 – great buying.

A very rare Limited Edition Spanish McLaren F1 (if I recall correctly this car was released then withdrawn from sale, that’s right, a “slot car recall”, and is very rare) sold for only \$50.

After one hour we are up to lot 63. After 90 minutes we are up to lot 92. Rod is doing a great job keeping us on time. In the background Peter Drury, Club Secretary, has been cooking away and keeping us in ample supply of barbeque and drinks. Great job Pete and helpers, and much appreciated by all during the night.

A special highly collectable copy of "SCALEXTRIC THE ULTIMATE GUIDE" signed for the Club by author ROGER GILLHAM when in Sydney late last year is up for grabs.

The Auction continues at quite a pace and we are treated to rare French Scalextric cars, classic Buildings, and a very early sidecar, a Typhoon rare front wheel version. Fantastic range and great prices for buyers.



Fantastic old Entrance Building



Very Good Condition - with Boxes

The Auction warmly welcomed Clive Spreadbury from Scalex in Adelaide. Clive made available a wide range of interesting and highly sought after cars including great "old school" cars from the past, some boxed. There were four C58 Cooper F1s in different colours, three C62 Ferrari F1 Sharknose in different colours, a C64 Bentley with rare box, and several race tuned cars including the Cooper, D Type Jaguar (fiercely bid on the night) and Vanwell. Clive also had F1s, 4 wheel drive off road cars, and some great mint Fly cars. The variety on offer during the night was the best we have seen. There were even some framed prints, books and games on offer. It was great to have lots from Melbourne as well, including several lengths of braid and a book thanks to Chris Poynter. During one of the short breaks Andrew sold raffle tickets for a special "mystery prize", proceeds going to Westmead Children's Hospital. Congratulations to the winner Rod Holman. Rod is one of the original Club Members and has always been active in the Club. The "mystery prize" was that Rod got to make the very special Announcement of the Club Car to commemorate the Club's 20th Anniversary. A special, world first, one and only, pre-production framed and signed Certified Final Design Drawing was presented as a memento of the occasion. Rod was warmly applauded for his win and the great news. The Design Drawing will look fantastic behind the new Club Car. The Auction resumed until finally the end was in sight (late), with a large range of Scalextric and Fly collectables which were keenly sought by weary bidders. Well done Rod – you made it!



A special thanks to Peter Drury for catering and cooking, and to Andrew Moir for keeping a running check list of sales during the night. Thank you to the several Committee Members who brought a back-up lap top after mine crashed Saturday morning, and to all those who helped with set up and clean up of the hall.

A warm thank you to those who made the Auction possible by providing lots, especially to : Rob Thurlow who was unable to attend but organized and brought his lots to Sydney in advance, Ian Towle who never fails to bring something collectable and of irresistible interest, Clive and Cheryl for making the trip from Adelaide to Sydney with a great selection of lots, Rod Clarke for looking after the large range of mint cars auctioned at the end of the night, Rod Dixon for his seven hour stint for us (after doing a charity auction on Friday night)

<u>In brief :</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Total Lots	156	400
Lots Sold	123	290
Average Sale Price	\$36.22	\$35.64

Great Buys of the night :

Truck Knight Raider with chrome plinth	60
McLaren F1 Rare Ltd Ed Spain	50
41 Willys Hot Rod set car with working lights	50
Rossi Honda Motorcycle (from set)	20
Ducati Motorcycle (from set)	22
Jaguar D-Type yellow	50
Tiger Special Sports Car	20
Typhoon rare front wheel version	100
Alpine Renault Made in France	75
Renault Alpine Made in France	35
Ferrari GT Berlinetta	75
Ferrari 312 B2 F1 RX Motor	75
Lister Jaguar	85
Cooper F1	40
Ferrari F1 Sharknose	55
Bentley	100
Austin Healey	60
Race Tuned Vanwall F1	35
Maserati 250F Tinplate Missing Seat & Exhaust	65
Complete Set NSCC Mags 1982 to 2001 with Binders	60
Triumph TR4	65
All of the Scalextric and Fly mint cars	

The Auction is the Club's biggest event and we hope everybody had a really enjoyable night. If it was your first time, thank you for coming. We look forward to seeing you next year at

“the best night of the year”