

# Model AUTO Review



**WIN** this 1:43 Automodello TVR Griffith 200 in our **FREE** competition!



Rietze 1:87 Mercedes-Benz Citaro artic city bus EVB



Norev 1:43 Fiat 500 Giardiniera

News from around the world

Bus  
trucks  
fire

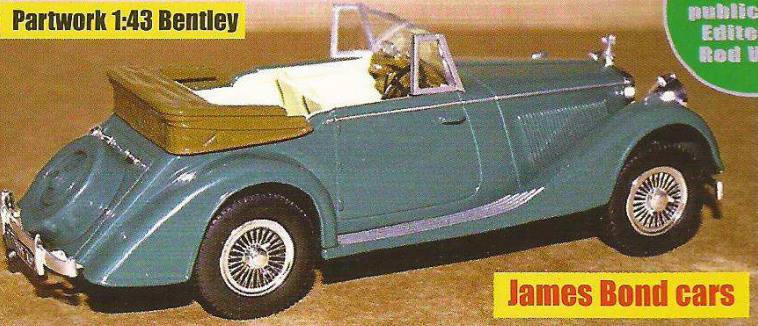


Eligor 1:43 Renault Arlette Gruss Circus



Brooklin 1:43 Willys Jeepster

An Auto Review publication Edited by Rod Ward



Partwork 1:43 Bentley

James Bond cars



Latest issues

Kenna 1:43 Austin A70 Hereford estate by Jensen



Ford Explorer

Maisto 1:24 Ford Explorer



DAF Car Models

Norev 1:43 DAF Daffodil

# New models of Saurer post buses from Switzerland

## Described by Daniel Beck • Photos on page 29

**SAURER** was the most important manufacturer of trucks and buses in Switzerland.

The company was founded in Arbon in 1853 and produced commercial vehicles from 1903 to 1982. Until the 1990s, Saurer buses were a common sight in Switzerland, and they were widely used by the Swiss post, even on narrow mountain roads. So it was that they became interesting for model manufacturers; **Mercury** of Italy and later **Vitesse** of Portugal made diecast models of Saurer post buses.

A 1:87 plastic Saurer bus from the late 1970s could be found in the **Roskopf** range made in Germany, and there are handbuilt models produced by **HB Modelle** and **Brändli**.

**Tek-Hoby**, Swiss distributor of various model vehicle ranges, started a range of 1:50 diecast Saurer buses in 2002. The first model was an improved re-issue of the 3CT1D from the early 1950s previously made by **Vitesse**, which was released in different liveries (open or closed canvas top, with or without snow plough), and the RH525-23 from 1978 was later added to the range. Finally, there is a large and very detailed 1:24 diecast model of the L4C Alpenwagen III from 1951, which has been available online from [www.alpenwagen.ch](http://www.alpenwagen.ch) since 2006. Two new Saurer bus models have been available since December 2009.

**Tek-Hoby's** latest release is a 1:50 model of the Saurer KC2 CBD from 1939. This is a very short bus with only 11 seats. Four of these buses were operated on post bus lines in rural Switzerland. Later they were taken over by local post office operators and remained in office until the late 1960s. Their nickname was *Hummeli* (little bumble bee). The original of the bus modelled by **Tek-Hoby** is now exhibited at the Museum of Communication in Bern.

The other new release is a 1:87 diecast model of the L4C Alpenwagen IIIa with panoramic windows from 1954. This model was commissioned by **Arwico**, the Swiss distributor of companies such as **Schuco**, **Ebbro**, **Revell** and **M4**. It is made in China, and the finish is at least up to the same standards as the models in **Schuco's** 1:87 range, with fine printing, authentic number plates, and small details such as realistically shaped rear view mirrors. The first issue of this model is only available as a part of a gift set sold by the Swiss Post in a limited edition of 1000 items, along with two 1:87 **Schuco** models in Swiss post livery: a Mercedes-Benz O 302 bus from 1973 and a VW T3 bus from the early 1980s. Other versions of the Swiss post bus will be made in future, including the badge-engineered **FBW** (just released) and **Berna** buses.

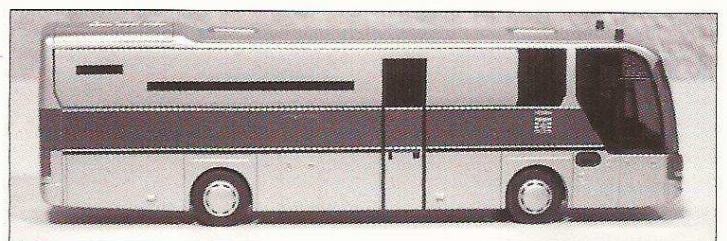
### Captions to page 29: Buses and emergency vehicles

**1 ELIGOR** 1:43 diecast from France: 101258 Dacia Logan estate fire service. **2 CLASSIX** 1:76 diecast in China for UK: EM76887 Vauxhall Ten H type taxi. **3 CORGI** 1:76 diecast in China for UK: Collectors Club model; OM41606 Crossley DD42 double decker bus of Leeds City Transport, the only Crossley in the fleet, and with a green painted bonnet instead of the customary Leeds polished-aluminium bonnet. 1,000 made for Club members. **4 CLASSIX** 1:76 diecast in China for UK: EM76660 Austin A30 van police dog handler. **5 WIKING** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 0721 01 35 Büssing Senator public service bus. (Photo and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt). **6 ELIGOR** 1:43 diecast from France: 101248 Citroen H crewbus for fire service. **7 RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from

Germany: 67227 MAN Lion's City G three door artic city bus *Üstra* Hannover, Germany. (Photo and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt). **8 RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 67716 MAN Lion's City DD (DL07) double decker bus *BVG*, Berlin, advertising *IBB*, a bank for those setting up new enterprises. (Photo and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt). **9 RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 66560 Mercedes-Benz Citaro E4 *Skibus* Wagrain, Austria. (Photo and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt). **10 RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 67719 MAN Lion's City DD (DL07) double decker *BVG* Berlin, advertising *SUPER Illu*, a lifestyle magazine. (Photo and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt). **11 RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 67715 MAN Lion's City DD (DL07) double decker bus *BVG* Berlin, advertising the recycling organisation in Berlin. (Photo and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt).



**RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 66298 MAN Lion's City bus *ESWE* Wiesbaden, Germany; white, blue and orange. (Photos and notes Hans-Georg Schmitt).



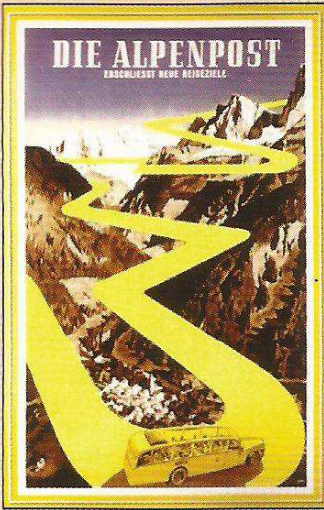
**RIETZE** 1:87 plastic from Germany: 63429 Neoplan Euroliner prisoner transport, Hesse, Germany, silver and blue.



Arwico 1:87 Saurer L4C Alpenwagen IIIa 1954



Schuco 1:87 diecast Mercedes-Benz O302 1973



Arwico 1:87 FBW Alpenwagen IIIa



Schuco 1:87 VW T3 Swiss post 1983

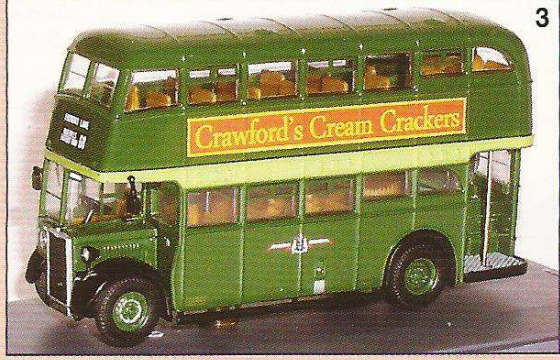
Post Buses: see page 26



Tek-Hoby 1:50 TH5351 Saurer KC2 CBD 1939



Tek-Hoby 1:50 Saurer buses, L to R: KC2 CBD, 3CT1D, RH525-23.



captions on page 26

