

Eaglemoss – Batman collectible vehicles, Issue 1

Review by Jonathan Aird

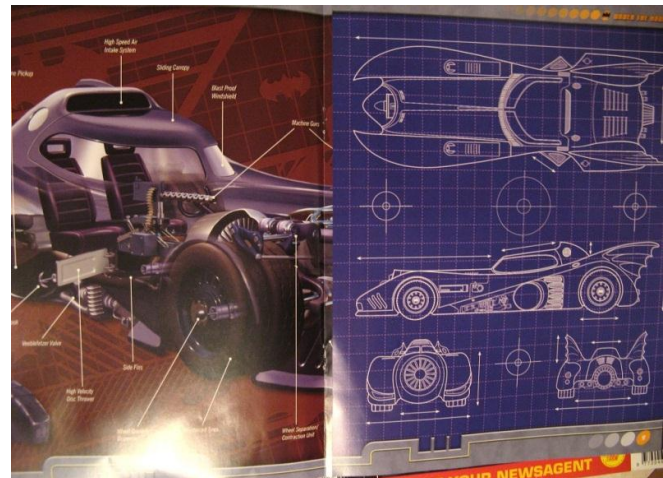
And so another year rolls around to another January, and this, of course, means that it is Part Work Time again. And one of the first to appear this year is *The Batman Automobilia* collection – offering the chance to collect 70 years of batmobiles in the form of die cast models! As usual the first issue is heavily discounted against the normal price – in this case Issue 1 is available for £2.99 with a regular issue price of £9.99. Issue 2 will be part discounted at £5.99 and will include the TV Batcar, which I expect will make it a must buy for a lot of nostalgic men.



What of Issue 1? Well, this Batmobile is the one featured in the first modern movie of 1989 (can it really be 23 years ago?). It's a very elegant design, and is in "full mode" – not the armoured version or the narrowed down "alley runner" escape mode. It's mounted on a scenic base with a couple of oil drums and a Caped Crusader (standing about 4cm tall). The vehicle can be taken off the base by removing a couple of small restraining screws, the figures though would have to be prised off.



The scale for the series is stated to be 1:43, but using the measurements provided in the accompanying "fact file magazine" suggests that this model is closer to 1:40. On the face of it then it is a little big to use with 25mm or 28mm figures, however it will look OK if they are mounted on thick bases or are slotta-based (which lifts the figures up a few millimetres above ground level). I think it looks fine with Heroclix type superhero figures. It is, clearly, a Batmobile, and so has limited use elsewhere, although at a pinch it could be recruited into a



pulp-look science fiction game, I could imagine Flash Gordon stepping from such a vehicle (but it would probably need a respray first).

As is typical with these part-works, the first half dozen issues will be available in shops, and then generally only by placing a regular order with the newsagent. Alternatively, and what the publisher Eaglemoss doubtless would prefer, a subscription can be taken out; there are several enticing special offers to encourage this: a binder for the magazines, a BAT-1 licence plate replica, digital editions of the magazines, and (perhaps more tempting really) an armoured version of the same Batmobile and a model of the Batwing also from the 1989 film. Tempting ... but as with all partworks there's no real indication of just how many of the things you'd be signing up for. A timeline in the magazine suggests at least 33 issues – so there are probably at least 60 to come! Don't think I'll be signing up, but this first issue is hard to beat for value, and is a must grab for anyone with the slightest interest in superhero gaming. It's available in shops in the UK, Eire and Malta, but the Eaglemoss website has details for US subscriptions as well.