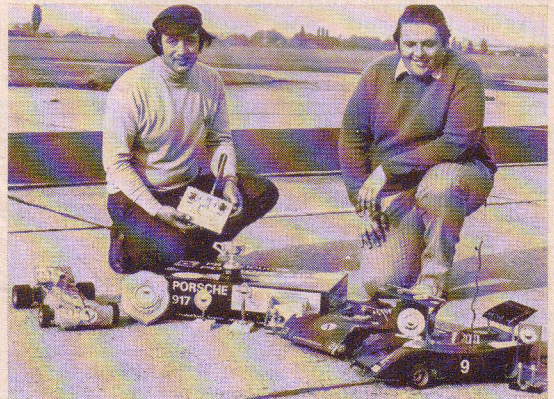




North Weald and the North London R/C Club finally get a weekend dry enough for an 'Open'

## F.1-1st PLESTED Sp/G.T.-1st PLESTED Saloon-1st MITHA

Heading. They're off! To the start of an exciting Formula 1 final at North Weald on June 11th. A storm brewed up which held up the running of this final (hence the various headgear of finalists) and from left to right, the drivers are Johnny Johnson, Mark Plested, Keith Plested, John Mitha and Gordon Tapsell. Keith eventually won. Right, Keith Plested (left) and John Mitha with their trophies and the cars with which they did it. Embarrassingly, Keith Plested won one of his own Porsche kits, which he says will be put back into stock!



**S**ATURDAY and Sunday, June 10th and 11th saw a 're-run' of the weather-marred first Open Meeting of the North London R/C Races at North Weald and, despite higher temperatures and some sunshine, it still contrived to pour down during at least one of the exciting three class finals.

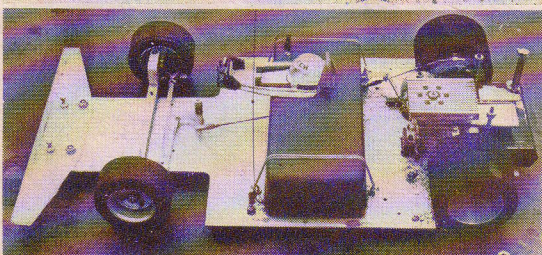
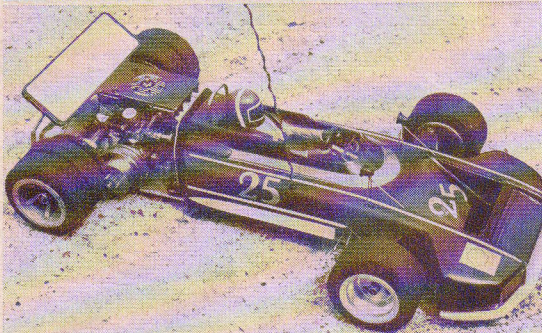
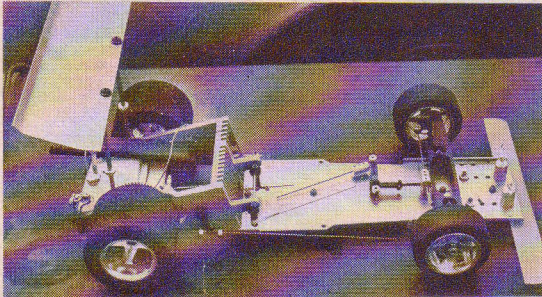
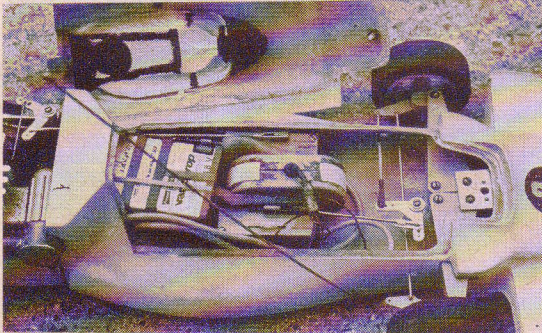
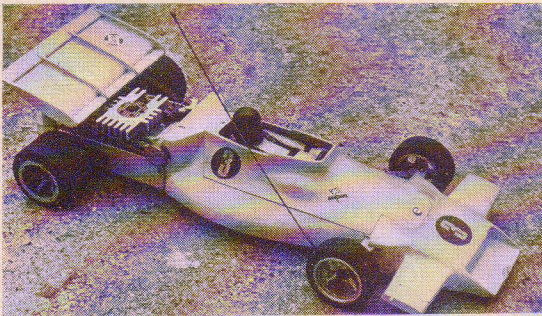
The meeting, however, proved highly interesting, with a host of new cars and ideas and it was our first meeting with friendly American visitor, Lynn Fletcher, who showed us not only his very fast Marker car in action but also the chassis of a brand-new American kit product, the Taurus Mk. 1. We believe Mike Morrisey (whose name will be familiar to slot car enthusiasts) is behind the company producing the Taurus, which features a beautiful single-piece motor heat sink as a component of the chassis, which itself is from 0.063 in. aluminium rolled at the edges. The

chassis is stiffened by aluminium channel, bolted on, and fully machined aluminium 'McLaren pattern' wheels carry soft-capped sponge tyres. One interesting feature of the kit is the provision of a quick fill spout on the 4 oz. fuel tank - races in America include pit stops and it is essential to get the tank topped up as quickly as possible. The Taurus is a very expensive kit (175 U.S. dollars) but we are told that they are extremely quick and handle well. Gordon Tapsell's just bought one, so we'll see more of Taurus in this country soon.

Saturday's activity was devoted to practice and G.T. and Formula 1 heats; it produced some very fast racing between Keith Plested, Lynn Fletcher and Robin Ellis (another Marker kit) and produced a joint fastest time of day for Keith and Lynn in G.T. In Formula 1, Keith Plested and son, Mark, battled

Below, left, two close-up views of the fascinating American Taurus R/C Racer with its beautifully die-cast finned heat sink which doubles as motor mounting component and also part of the chassis. At right is a close-up of the engine department on the equally interesting American Marker car of Lynn Fletcher.





Right, Lynn Fletcher used this interesting modification to the Futaba single stick outfit in the form of a Russkit/Parma slot race hand controller bolted to the back and modified to provide progressive throttle when squeezed and brakes when pushed; this apparently is the way to go in the States and next month we hope to show you a variety of combinations of this idea in Ted Longshaw's report on the U.S. Nationals. Left, Johnnie Johnson's attractive Formula 1 car in glass-fibre uses true monocoque construction and is a crafty piece of moulding; gear is Graupner Varioprop and Johnnie placed second in this class. Third down, another view of the interesting Taurus kit.



amongst themselves, and Robin Ellis also put up some good times. Racing on Sunday, which saw the finals, also saw the arrival of the Southern R/C Club's Johnnie Johnson, who has now come over to R/C cars in a 'full-time' capacity with his attractive all-glass-fibre monocoque construction Formula 1 car, and we photographed the most attractive Brabham BT34 of Paul Leach, of the Yorkshire R/C Model Car Racing Club, which was unfortunately stolen from the Leach family's parked car on the way home! The model must be quite useless to the thief, since he didn't take the transmitter, and one wonders at the mentality of such people. . . .

Final results show well-deserved wins for Keith Plested, of P.B. Products, whose usual infuriatingly bad luck hadn't followed him to North Weald; as you will see from the list, he took first place in Formula 1 and Sports G.T. with his new 'straight from the box' P.B. kit, which really is remarkably good value—one certainly cannot excuse the manufacturers of not thoroughly trying it under racing conditions, and we write this having just returned from 'The British Nationals' at Warwick, where the kits in customers' hands did very well indeed.

**RESULTS**

- |                    |                    |                   |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Formula 1</b>   |                    |                   |
| 1. K. Plested      | 2. Johnnie Johnson | 3. Gordon Tapsell |
| <b>Sports G.T.</b> |                    |                   |
| 1. K. Plested      | 2. John Mitha      | 3. Lynn Fletcher  |
| <b>Saloon</b>      |                    |                   |
| 1. John Mitha      | 2. Gordon Tapsell  |                   |

Left, Paul Leach's beautiful Brabham BT34 with Raydio Bodies shell; unfortunately stolen, but not at North Weald. Bottom left, the very fast American Marker chassis which didn't win at North Weald, but has since gained a host of successes in this country. Below, the attractive trophies and prizes put up by the North London R/C Club.

