

"In early 1995 the Infinity brand was launched"

# Best of British

From here to Infinity



The Lesro team, what a great bunch!, Founder Ken on the extreme left of picture.



Oh what a wind up, Infinity motors really are hand wound. It beats counting the turns as I used to do with my old slot motors.....



Nothing like a piece of high tech' equipment for giving a 'balanced' article...

**B**or the April 'Bob' report RRCi journeyed through far off Dorset to the South Coast and the charming town of Christchurch. This popular spot for Summer Holiday makers holds good memories for your scribe who used to visit the area regularly in an earlier life as one of the Regional Management Team of a nationwide TV Rental company. Ah! happy days..... NOT. But visiting this area was always a pleasure. Seriously if you get the chance to visit it is a really nice area!

## How did it happen?

The company which now runs under the 'Lesro' banner was founded by Ken Firth who 21 years ago bought up the rights to seven wooden boat kits which had been marketed as Lesro Model Boats. Some of these models are still available, as a glance through the comprehensive Lesro catalogue will confirm. Another model boat range, this time plastic models, was added from 'Duplex Craft' and the model business began to grow apace.

Young Darrel Firth was not, luckily for us in RRCi land, into boats. At college he had become interested in racing cars and was pretty successful after a stint as driver for 'MG' and 'Twister' confirms. The Model Car side of the business began to expand with agencies for Sanyo and a large American Manufacturer being taken on around 1985.

Gradually Lesro took on the preparation of the Motors and Cells for the UK appearances of the US Team and in 1994 Chris Grainger became UK Pro10 Champion using Lesro prepared products. In 1994 Lesro started to produce its own winds, and very successful they were too.

In early 1995 the Infinity brand was launched. The provision of Cell packs from basic 'Sport' packs through to hand picked Cells for the racer to construct his own packs is a major part of the Lesro success story. A working relationship that was begun with Glyn Peglar for Cells in the early 90's continues today. Chris Grainger joined Lesro following his Pro10 success and shortly afterwards launched his own 'Chris Grainger' parts and accessories under the Lesro umbrella.



Give me a Supermarket trolley and ten minutes and I can race on the proceeds of a 'smash and grab' forever.

## Motor on

The Infinity range of motors set Lesro apart from some of the other distributors and re-sellers, for the Motors are truly a speciality. Very few companies can claim to have a working relationship with Trinity and Yokomo but Lesro build new motors using stock parts from the catalogues of these two illustrious names. The range of winds and motor accessories is mind boggling and if, you cannot find what you want in the catalogue, they will build it for you.

RRCi will be testing one of the latest Infinity Pro Modified D3 'Dirtinator' based motors soon. Watch out for a 'Benchtest', and no doubt a Track test from the 'Hairy One', Chris Deakin soon.

## And now?

The previously mentioned catalogue gives a clear insight into the comprehensive Lesro range. The Lesro and Duplex range of boats are still available. Ball Race kits, Motors, Battery Packs, Cells and Battery Accessories form the 'Meat' of the Lesro business. Carry bags and clothing complete the Lesro branded items. The range of 1:10th Electric models under the Benfa range are a popular 'budget' buy as are the Parma kits which are imported including the fabulous 'Viper', a review of both in RRCi soon. The Chris Grainger branded range is huge. Lexan bodyshells cover both Scale and Wide bodied touring cars, 1:10th and 1:12th Nissans. Foam tyres, Cyano, Oil, Motor Spray, Shock Oil (10-250WT!), Screws, Turnbuckles, PHEW! Nice chap though Chris. As if that wasn't enough Lesro also carry a range of Electric Flight models (and if you are into those as well you must buy Electric Flight International, now monthly, available from Traplet Publications - not so subtle advertisement over, I promise.....). A range of electrical bits for boats and planes with Speedos switches etc. And kites for goodness sake, is there no end to these peoples interests?

My thanks to Darrel and Ken, Chris and the rest of the crew at Lesro for the hospitality, tea and an extremely informative couple of hours. **RRCi**



You know you are in good hands, these guys are modellers!

Above: 27 Turn stock motor; BRCA legal and built to the same standards as the Pro- Modified.

Hand picked cells, matched for performance - a Lesro speciality.



Left & right: More Chris Grainger bits, caption if needed.....



Ride wheels and tyres.



Top right: Pro - Modified Eh? now we are getting serious

Middle right: Part of the huge range of Chris Grainger bits, bet you never even knew you needed purple screws for your transmitter did you?



And Take Off wheels and tyres.

Left: Useful Gizmo, a thermometer for checking the track temperature, I want one!

Right: The ever useful motor cleaner part of the extensive 'Infinity' range.

