



Dave Lowery got hold of  
Tamiya's latest. Did he . . .

# STRIKE IT LUCKY!

TRACK TEST

Just to give you some idea of the last time I constructed an R/C buggy, the kit, produced by Tamiya was for the 'Rough Rider'. So it was with a degree of excitement and curiosity that I accepted the offer from the now outgoing Editor 'Monsieur Eckett' to build the latest 'Off-Road, high-performance racer' entitled the 'Striker', from Tamiya.

I've seen over the years quite a number of the buggies and racers in their very distinctive, eye-catching presentation boxes and this one follows the established tradition. On opening the box the parts are all well laid out and very well-presented in their separate bags and bubble-sealed compartments.

The instruction booklet is quite unique to the R/C-buggy fraternity, whereas I, for my sins, model railways and the respective manufacturers could certainly

learn a few lessons from these informative instructions.

For every constructional step there is an exploded diagram which is easily understood plus, in a column running down the left hand side of the page a complete list of all of the components required for that particular operation; a sheer pleasure to follow.

The initial stages show how to sort out the different types of radio gear and which components fit which servos. All variations are covered making the assembly very easy as well as universal.

Once the radio, along with the servos, is installed into the basic shell the construction positively breezes along and, in fact, the constructional part of the project were achieved in about four hours.

All of the components to build

up the body, suspension, steering, etc., are clearly labelled and screw together very easily; in fact, no problems at all to a first time builder.

The suspension, shocks, etc., did seem to be a bit on the basic side when compared to the more advanced models, but then again, do you need to get involved with oil shocks at this early stage and with what is, after all, a first timer's model?

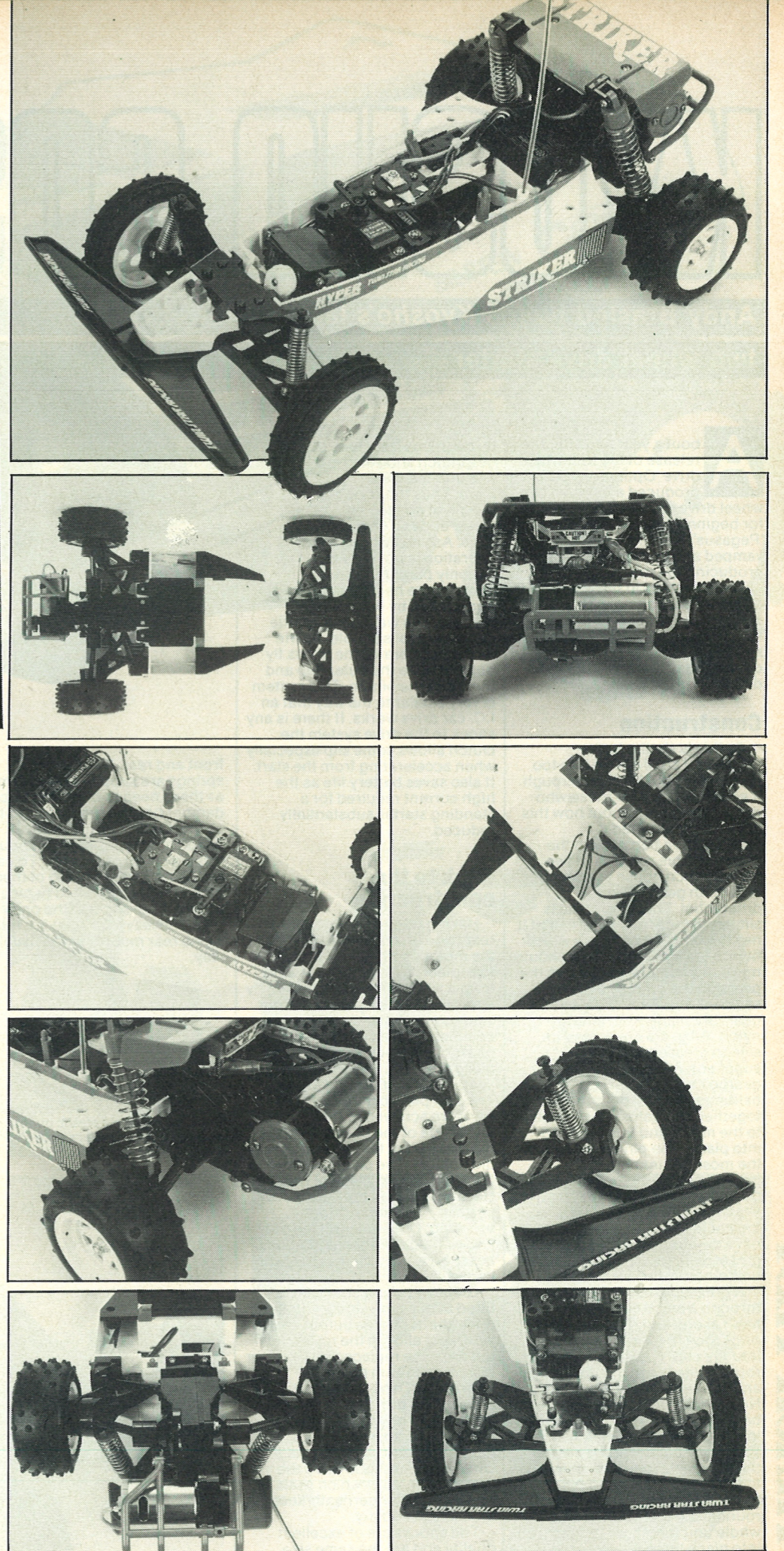
After completing the constructional work, which is very straightforward and comparatively easy, we came to the application of the decals and here the fun starts! These are, to say the least, a little tricky, but having said that, if care is taken and a bit of time spent in making sure they fit, then a good job will be achieved. The only painting required is the driver and cockpit area.

All of the major components which need easy access are very accessible i.e. the battery pack compartment is underneath, the radio gear based under the body which is held in by several easily removed clips.

We are now ready for operation and here it is advisable to go through the check list at the rear of the instruction manual.

The 'Striker' performs well in acceleration, braking and cornering, making it a super buggy to get your teeth into as a good starter car, or as in my case a re-introduction to the latest technology, now available in the buggy field, which has, without doubt, come on a long way since my first initiation with the 'Rough Rider'.

Reviewed by Dave Lowery  
Price approximately £65.00.



Starting at top clockwise: overall view showing intervals. Rear end and motor installation. Battery hatch, quick to change. Front end showing soft springs. Front end view showing wide stance. 'Star' drive shafts and diff outputs. Rear long stroke shock absorbers, speed controller and servo. Underside of car completely assembled.