



## **KENT GROUP FORD RS OWNERS CLUB FEBRUARY ISSUE 2**

### ***WELCOME TO SUNNY BRANDS HATCH***

Hi all and welcome to another Kent RS Owners club meet at chilly Brands Hatch! I'm sure that you would all like to welcome the members from Kent region of the Focus Owners Club (FFOC) to our friendly meet I'm sure that they don't bite and I have said that we don't either!

As I'm sure you are aware tonight is our AGM and we will try to get this out of the way as painlessly as possible for you, so please bare with us for the short time that this takes and I hope it won't detract from your enjoyment of your evening.

### ***RAFFLE***

Its back again this month this time the prizes are nice and simple first prize will be a New Style Kent RSOC t-shirt and second price will be a Autoglym car cleaning kit so please support us with the raffle as all the money goes to make Kent RSOC one of the best local groups!

### ***CAR OF THE NIGHT***

This will be back in May 2006 the trophies are now ordered so you still have time for those last minute cleaning seasons over the next couple of months.

### ***ROLLING ROAD DAY***

As winter is coming upon us again and most of you are putting your cars away until next year we thought that we would give you the chance to blow the cobwebs away nice and early next year in another Kent Rolling Road shoot-out this time we thought we could arrange a trip to Power Engineering in Uxbridge. If you are interested in a power run the cost would be £30 per car as long as we have over 14 cars. If you are interested come and see one of the committee and we will put your name on the list. (Sorry, not sure of a date yet but would have thought April time)

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## **KENT STICKERS AND CLOTHING**

The new club t-shirts and bomber jackets are now in stock and we have had a bit of a colour change away from mainly red to white with a red ST strip so to speak these are on sale tonight for £20.00 each for the t-shirts but prices for the bomber jackets are still to be confirmed with the club.

If you want anything else other than coats and polo shirts we are able to place the Kent Logo on just about anything from G-strings to School bags!

We also have a few web stickers left in white and silver

[www.rsocket.co.uk](http://www.rsocket.co.uk)

These are prices at £5.00 a pair. Please see Richard

## **KENT MEETS AT BRANDS HATCH**

There are quite a few things planned for our club nights at Brands Hatch over the next few months and here are one or two ideas to see you through the winter months:-

- February meet will be the AGM !
- 19<sup>th</sup> April Meet will be a track evening
- May meet will Turbo night
- June meet will be a track evening
- July meet will be Cosworth night
- August meet will a track evening
- September meet old school night

These are just some of the ideas that we have had so far and may change a little depending on track time from Brands etc.

We have also put together a deal with Brands Hatch/Motorsport Vision that any Kent RSOC member will be able to obtain 10% discount from any Motorsport Vision track day at one of the MSV owned tracks throughout the county all you have to do is look at this link on the internet :-

[www.motorsportvision.co.uk/rsownersclub](http://www.motorsportvision.co.uk/rsownersclub)

and find the date and track that best suits you then give Alex a call at MSV on 01474 875216 and job done.

Don't worry if you have never been on the track before as there are beginner sessions with instruction available as well.

## **BRANDS HATCH TRACK DATES**

Here are a list of track dates that have been offered to you that you are able to us your 10% discount on for January to April 2006. Please note that these are not RSOC insurance approved events and we can take no liability for events that may happen there.

Please contact Alex at Brands Hatch with regard to any of these date and don't forget to mention Kent RSOC and you should obtain a discount on your booking!.

February	Trackdays	B/C	Circuit	Price
04/02/2006	<a href="#">Brands Hatch Novice [Morning]</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£89.00
04/02/2006	<a href="#">Brands Hatch Novice [Afternoon]</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£89.00
04/02/2006	<a href="#">Brands Hatch Novice [Full Day]</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£159.00
24/02/2006	<a href="#">Club Brands Hatch Track Day - [Intermediate]</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£139.00
24/02/2006	<a href="#">Club Brands Hatch Track Day - [Novice]</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£139.00
24/02/2006	<a href="#">Club Brands Hatch Track Day - [Advanced]</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£139.00
March	Trackdays	B/C	Circuit	Price
03/03/2006	<a href="#">Snetterton Novice [Afternoon]</a>	Car	Snetterton	£79.00
03/03/2006	<a href="#">Snetterton Novice [Morning]</a>	Car	Snetterton	£79.00
03/03/2006	<a href="#">Snetterton Novice [Full Day]</a>	Car	Snetterton	£139.00
10/03/2006	<a href="#">Oulton Park Novice [Morning]</a>	Car	Oulton Park (International)	£99.00
10/03/2006	<a href="#">Oulton Park Novice [Full Day]</a>	Car	Oulton Park (International)	£180.00
10/03/2006	<a href="#">Oulton Park Novice [Afternoon]</a>	Car	Oulton Park (International)	£99.00
April	Trackdays	B/C	Circuit	Price
19/04/2006	<a href="#">Performance Ford Track Day - Intermediate</a>	Car	Brands Hatch (Indy)	£175.00

## SHOWS FOR 2006

### SHOW SEASON 2006

Hello to everyone, 2006 has started and another action packed year is ahead of us. There are plenty of shows organized throughout the year for you all to partake in.

There is something for everybody from full-blown concourse to showing your pride and joy on the Kent stand at many events during the year. Then, for you petrol heads and speed demons there are organized track events at Brands Hatch and other tracks countrywide. This is not just for those who are experienced but also for those of you who are beginners, so please come along and see the action for yourself.

There is the option of tuition on most track days for novices and the peace of mind that safety and fun are of paramount importance there is nothing to stop even the most inexperienced driver getting the most out of their car and seeing just how far they can push it!

So with the first track evening commencing on our April meet please contact myself, Mark Jennings for all you need to know! My contact details are as below. Please be quick to see me, if you wish to come along, in order to save disappointment as places book quickly and are on a first come first served basis.

[mark@rsocket.co.uk](mailto:mark@rsocket.co.uk)

Mobile: 07748362201

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With the summer in sight (nearly) it's the time of year to get to a pub and get a good pub meal and catch up on the latest modifications and ford gossip and once again it is suggested that perhaps one evening during the week, those who are able to participate, gather to a local Two for One pub (nothing like a bargain after the strain of Christmas, which I am sure is still lurking over some of us) so please see me to let me know if you wish to come along so that a date and venue can be organized which will be convenient to all. This is not just an opportunity to talk RS but also to bring the group together and bring family along too!

The list of shows planned for 2006 are as follows:

- 14<sup>th</sup> May 2006 Cumbria RSOC
- 4<sup>th</sup> June 2006 North Yorks RSOC Elvington Airfield
- 11<sup>th</sup> June Dorset RSOC Lulworth Castle
- 18<sup>th</sup> June 2006 Northants RSOC Wilton Mill
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2006 Lancs RSOC Townly Park Burnley Lancs
- 9<sup>th</sup> July 2006 Durham RSOC Croft Race circuit
- 6<sup>th</sup> August 2006 Ford Fair Silverstone
- 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2006 Trax Silverstone TBC
- 10<sup>th</sup> September European Ford Show Holland

Of course there will be local shows again like last year at Bromley and the Hop Farm these date we are still waiting for so as soon I I have these I will put them into black and white for you.

Thanks

Mark

## ***THANK YOU***

A big thank you to the RS2000 lads from the Kent Group for all the advise on the poor running on my Mark5 RS2000, an even bigger thanks must go to Mark and Richard (big-up) for giving up there Sunday to help me, my dad and Lush to rectify the problems also to Ian for the spare parts that helped to get my car running. It now runs much better.

Thanks again

Robbie (RS2000)

So on that note if you do have a problem with your RS then just let us know if we don't know what the problem is I'm sure that we will know a man or woman that does.

*The above just goes to show what the RS Family are like, we all seem to help each other out and this is how thing should be within the club as its all for a common course the RS brand.*

***Martyn***

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## **THE BEAST FROM THE EAST!**

Remember “Austria or Bust”? You know the idiot that brought an Escort Cosworth off E-Bay from Austria! Well, I’ve only gone and done it again, but bigger and better this time (well I think so anyway)!!



It all started as an E- Bay moment again, I know I really should get out more! I had spotted a certain Imperial Blue Escort rally car; it looked in my opinion really nice and I had one of my gut feelings. There was only 1 slight problem it wasn't exactly local, but then the cars I end up buying never are, it was in Dubai! Anyway I watched and drooled over it from the moment it was listed. It was then time to make a huge decision, time to sell Eleanor (my moonstone blue totally standard 3 door D100 CRF, the name Eleanor taken from the film Gone in 60 Seconds, if you've seen the film you'll understand!) As usual though when you're desperate to sell a car for what ever reason it just don't happen! Anyway for some reason, (maybe the distance!!) nobody bid on the Beast From the East and it ended. I was gutted, my chance had gone.

So the search began again, trawling through e-bay, Auto Trader, Rally News, just about anywhere I could think of to find another rally spec escort cosworth. I found a few but all were just not up to scratch, the Beast from the East WAS the car for me and nothing else would do. I e-mailed the seller and asked was the car still up for sale and for more info on the car, but e-mails really ain't my thing so I phoned him in Dubai - un be known to the wife!! I did later mention to her that at least she would get a holiday to Dubai out of it, but she still wasn't convinced. David the seller told me that Mohammed Ben Sulyamen originally owned the car, the ex Middle East Rally Champion. I spent hour after hour just looking at the pictures and thinking of every scam under the sun to come up with the money, but no chance as Eleanor still hadn't sold and that was the only way to raise the money, apart from selling the kids, but for those of you who know my kids would know that the buyer would soon want a full refund-bless em!

So apparently I sulked and sulked!! But I didn't, well not really –not 1 word, Pink Leader, Johnny Kack, Mick Moose or anyone else from the Kent group! I have been told that I resembled a kid that doesn't stop going on and on about something that they really want and finally the parents can't take it any more and they give in!

Then out of the blue I got a phone call from the wife whilst I was at work; she'd gone home early as we both work for the same company. All she said was “Do you want the Beast from the East? Without even thinking for 1 second I said “Yes”. That was it, full steam ahead; I was straight on the phone to Dubai.

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David, the seller, was really helpful and made all the arrangements in Dubai for the shipping and the paperwork. The date came through for the container to leave and then the panic set in. The deal was that when the car went into the container the money was transferred. David sent pictures of the car in the container, copies of the shipping docs, etc and the money was transferred, all this was done without leaving the country. The days that the container was on the water were some of the longest days in my life. What if this was a scam, what if the car was a pile of junk, what if the car wasn't strapped down, what if the ship sunk, the what if's went on and on!

Paula (my wife) deals with shipping containers as part of her job in our company, and she was in contact almost daily with our shipping agents checking on the ships progress and dealing with the paperwork. By now even our shipping agents, R. Bugg Forwarding, were all getting excited by the imminent arrival of the container, (well it makes a change from the usual imports that we handle). But for me it wasn't excitement it was agony, what if the what if's came true! My biggest fear was that the car hadn't been strapped down properly and it would arrive battered! As by now Eleanor had sold and if I had sold my pride and joy for a battered piece of junk I wouldn't be happy.

Finally the ship arrived in Thamesport and the container sailed through customs with no problems. Now I had to wait until the Saturday for delivery of the container to our work place. The next obstacle to over come was unloading the container, we don't have a loading bay and the container is 5ft up in the air! Many people would see this as a problem, but no not me. I had come up with the rather ingenious un loading plan. The container would back up to a plinth of pallets and out would roll the car, still 5ft in the air however. Now most sensible people would think ramps, but no not me!

Saturday morning came and it was the big day. At work my right hand man; Marky Mark was on hand to aid me in the great plan. Paula and the boys, Jake and Danny, were there to witness the arrival along with Mick Moose, Robbie, Steph (the camera man, he could easily get a job as a commentator at a royal wedding!) Chris, Karen (Pink Leader's wife, he couldn't make it because of work and was gutted) and Ricky RS500 Boy (he made a spectacular arrival in a hired transit van sideways!). The coffee was made, the video camera was rolling and we waited and we waited. After about an hour, and after phoning the haulage company finally the container arrived. But here we go, a problem. The poor old driver got a panic on, he was being greeted by a mob filming him, on a desolate industrial estate and the address on the paperwork was slightly wrong. After showing him into the office and convincing him that all was ok and it was my car in the box, it was time to break the seal on the container and open the doors. Please, please don't let the what if's come true! The back doors opened and it was in there and it was strapped down and it was exactly as it had looked in the photos! Now for the unloading plan, the pallets were positioned and the car was pushed out onto the platform. With the help and



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skill from Marky Mark we proceeded to put the plan into action. Robbie sat in the car with his foot firmly planted on the brake and we lifted first the back of the car either side with 2 forklifts, then pulled out a pallet and lowered it back down. We then moved to the front of the car and performed the same procedure and continued moving from the back of the car to the front until the car was on the ground, the whole process only took about 10 minutes! Also inside the container were enough spares to build another car if I had a bodysell! After blapping up and down the industrial estate, setting off the building alarms, it was time to go home.

Then the homework really began, researching the history of the car. It was 1 of 3 Escort Cosworths owned by Mohammed and built by Mike Little Preparations on behalf of Ford. After more delving I discovered that my car build number MLP22, was fully backed by Ford as is all of Mohammed's cars. Through asking on the RS web site for help and info I managed to track down Dick Cormack who was chief engineer for MLP and was entrusted with the build and maintenance of the 3 cars. After many phone conversations with him it transpired that he actually built my car, as it was the first escort for Mohammed. The body shell was sent up from Boreham fully seam welded and caged and a new registered demo car was handed over by Ford as a donor. The car apart from the new paint is still carrying all of it's original 909 parts, even down to Mohammed's sabelt harness's and seats. So it really is a barn find! The original sponsorship colours were that of Gulf Oil and at one point the car was painted silver with Red Bull graphics and used on the Acropolis. My research so far on it's race history is that the car won the following rallies, Dubai Intl Rally 1993 – 1995, The Qatar Intl Rally 1993 – 1996, Rally of Lebanon 1993. We have been in contact with Mohammed, who as well as being the Sultan of Bahrain, has also won more rallies than any other driver in the history of rallying. He has been very helpful and when he gets time will send us some photos of the car in its day.



Next phase was to get the car legal in the UK, which is all done now, and to then get the artwork done for the graphics. This was a serious job and it took hours to get just right and a big thank you to Blob for all of his hard work and all of the hours he put in, but the end result in my opinion and his is well worth it. Next job is a trip to Harvey Gibbs for a full health check, but more of that in part 2 as I'm sure you'll all have fallen asleep by now!

It was a huge risk, but boy is it worth it. All that sulking defiantly paid off for me!

Thanks go to loads of people for different reasons, they know the reasons but here are some of the names, Paula (sorry about not getting the holiday to Dubai, but hey there was loads of sand in the car!), Jake, Danny, Marky Mark, Pink Leader, Mick Moose, Robbie, Steph, Ricky, Chris, Karen, Becky, Dean, R.Buggs, Jaco, Claire, Blob and all those who supported the idea.

**Steve**

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## **KENT ACCOUNTS**

### **INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005**

		2005 £
<b>INCOME</b>		
Raffle/Newsletters/Kent Group Regalia	585.75	
Shows	<u>2,580.00</u>	
		3,165.75
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Raffle Prizes	239.58	
Shows	2,290.00	
Trophies	<u>62.42</u>	
		(2,592.00)
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENSES)</b>		<u><u>573.75</u></u>

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#### **CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

Barclays Bank Account	1,363.05	
Cash	162.43	
Events co-ordinator float	<u>0.00</u>	
		<u><u>1,525.48</u></u>
<b>DEBTORS/(CREDITORS)</b>		<u>0.00</u>
		<u><u>0.00</u></u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		<u><u>1525.48</u></u>

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## **AGM**

Sorry it's the boring stuff now

As you know; tonight is the our AGM and as such we have a few things to run through they will be done as quickly as possible but the running order will be:-

1. Accounts

Looking at the accounts that we have published in most of the newsletter over the past 6 months Kent RSOC have been in a strong position on the money front and Claire has done a very good job of keeping up to date with the accounts of your local group. There have been a few changes on local group accounts over the few months and as a result the main club have now requested copies of our end of year accounts and after this meeting and we have a proposer and seconder for the account we will forward a copy to Mr Chris Copland (Local Group coordinator for the RSOC)

2. Committee positions for Kent for the next 2 years

Below is a list of applicants for the available positions

<b>Stephen Booth</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Richard "Blob" Harryman</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>Claire Hurst</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Nicola Harryman</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Mark Jennings</b>	<b>Events Coordinator</b>
<b>Stuart Coppard</b>	<b>Kent News Editor</b>
<b>Chris Hurst</b>	<b>Helper</b>
<b>Martyn Batstone</b>	<b>Helper</b>

Once these have all been seconded they will take up their elected jobs straight away

3. Any other business

This will be your chance to voice your opinion on Kent RSOC and what you would like to happen

4. Raffle draw and close