

Summer Autotest July 10 2003

A thick cloud of dust hanging in the hot, dry air partially obscuring the setting sun...has to be Kenya and the Safari Rally doesn't it?

Nope...Farningham for round 5 of the Summer Autotest Series and a field of 27, yes twenty seven enjoying themselves until the light starts to fade.

Good to see SAM COLLINS and his friend CHERYL TILBURY ( a first-timer at autotesting) in the Ford KA – the Mini replacement? Also KEITH CROCKER out for the first time this year, TOM WARD another autotest 'virgin' and CHRIS PENFOLD – a new member on the night – with his very quick, very smart Sapphire Cosworth.

FTD was taken by MARK DAWSON making a very welcome return – some 7 seconds ahead of the Subaru of Anthony Blyth who made 1<sup>st</sup> in Class E. Peter Baylis, having broken the more familiar Peugeot, was just 3 seconds adrift in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the same car.

Class A had CHRIS JUDGE as 'numero uno' followed to 2<sup>nd</sup> by both GILL WISE and MATT ENDEAN on identical times!

Class B also had enough competitors for a 2<sup>nd</sup> place award, for ANDY ELCOMB hot from Brands Hatch whilst the 1<sup>st</sup> place was earned by RALPH TRAVERS in the deceptively quick, or well driven (or both?) Vectra.

Class D was the usual fiercely battling trio, this time headed by MICK ROSE.

Well done to you all, there seemed to be lots of happy faces at the end. Thank you to the marshals and CHIN hopes to see you all in two weeks time..Thursday July 24.

CLIVE COOKE.

PS Quote of the night came from newcomer CHRIS PENFOLD who,when asked if he enjoyed the evening gave with a big grin and likened it to 'controlled hooliganism' – not a bad description really!